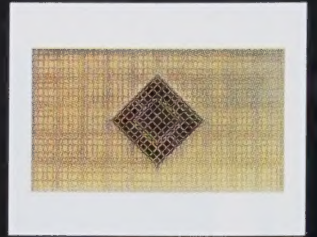


SAVING SPIRITUALS • PHAIR ROCKS FINNEY • DOORSTOPS SPARK SHOW-STOPPING FILM

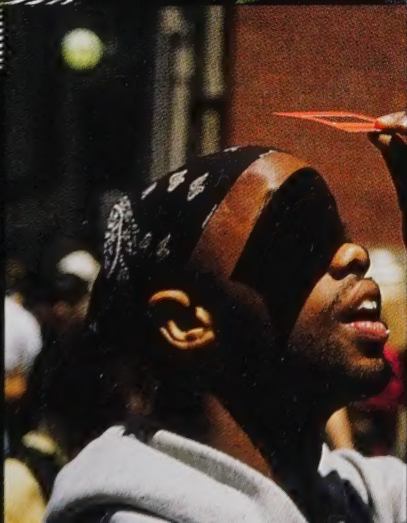
OBERLIN

ALUMNI MAGAZINE

SUMMER 1994



FIELD CELEBRATES
25 YEARS OF POETRY





Gift Annuities... a Contribution for Tomorrow That Pays Income Today

In the current economic environment of changing interest rates, charitable gift annuities represent an exciting gift opportunity for alumni and friends of Oberlin.

Gift annuities are irrevocable gifts to Oberlin College that pay fixed income for life. The annuity payments are guaranteed by the College's assets, and donors are entitled to an income tax charitable deduction the year the gift is made.

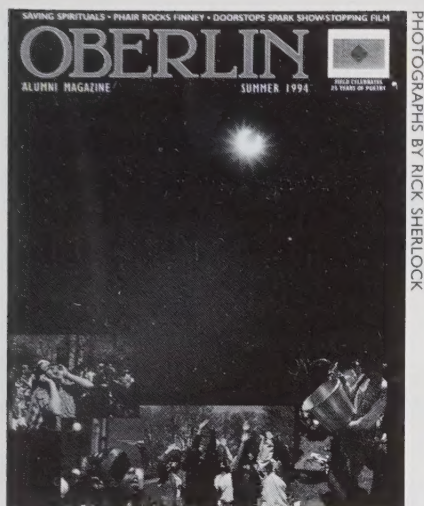
But what really makes charitable gift annuities appealing is the high return rates available to donors. Depending on your age at the time of the gift, you can expect the following benefits from a \$10,000 minimum gift:

Age of Beneficiary	Income Tax Deduction (approximate)	Annual Annuity Rate *
60	\$3632.90	6.1
65	\$3914.00	6.5
70	\$4344.80	6.9
75	\$4627.90	7.7
80	\$4972.80	8.8
85	\$5456.70	10.0
90	\$6086.00	11.0

* based upon a gift with one income beneficiary. Rates are slightly lower when two beneficiaries are designated.

What better way to support Oberlin's future and your own? To learn more about these very special gifts, please contact:

*Jane R. Jonesco, J.D.
Director of Gift Planning
205 Bosworth Hall
Oberlin, Ohio 44074
216/775-8599*



Oberlin was one of the best places in the world to view the annular eclipse of May 10, 1994, and Oberlinians took full advantage of the (possibly) once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. See page 5 for more details. Every issue of *Field* magazine has sported an already-published postcard on its cover, and the editors had one designed specifically to celebrate *Field's* 25th anniversary and 50th issue.

DEPARTMENTS

3 Letters

Oberlin's egalitarian traditions are worth preserving; rich, white students need not fear; concerning the fate of football—and all sports

5 Around Tappan Square

Oberlin eclipsed, morality and homosexuality concern campus, conservatory honors Arleen Augér

19 Alumni News & Notes

Gary Roma's doorstep documentary earns international acclaim, spiritual dance: a way of life

19 Year by Year

42 Losses in the Oberlin Family

57 One More Thing

OBERLIN

ALUMNI MAGAZINE

SUMMER 1994 VOL. 90 NO. 2

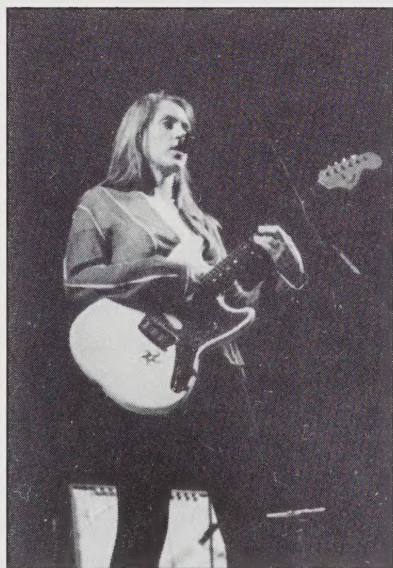
FEATURES

10 *A Field Anniversary*

First published in 1969, *Field* magazine has become a world-renowned literary institution. David Walker, who witnessed *Field's* birth and is now one of its editors, writes about what's been going on in the basement of Rice Hall for a quarter of a century.

BY DAVID WALKER '72

PHOTOGRAPH BY AVI SMITH '97



12 *Exiled from Guyville, Liz Phair Returns to Oberlin*

Alternative pop rocker Liz Phair '89 has taken the music world by storm with her debut album, *Exile in Guyville*. Oberlinians found out what all the hubbub's about when she brought her band to town April 1.

BY JANET DEGGES '93

14 *Deep River: Oberlin Alumni Are Preserving the Legacy of African-American Spirituals*

The preservation and performance of African-American spirituals is a passion for a number of Oberlin alumni. Some pursue the work full time, some support themselves with day jobs, but they have one thing in common—a zeal to save spirituals for future generations.

BY JOAN OLIVER GOLDSMITH '73

Alumni Tours 1994-96

MOROCCO • October 13-29, 1994

Highlights include visits to the cities of Rabat, where we will attend a reception at the home of Robert B. Petersen '64, counselor for public affairs with the U.S. Information Service; Fes and its fabulous medieval medina; Quarzazate, the "Hollywood of Morocco"; the oasis town of Erfoud; Taroudant, an ancient caravan stop; Atlantic Coast art center Essaouira; and Marrakech, the unofficial capital of the Berbers, the original inhabitants of North Africa. We will cross both ranges of the Atlas Mountains and make a sunset visit to the Sahara Desert. Escorted by Abdallah Belghanjougia, a Moroccan and former member of Oberlin's Department of French.

VIETNAM • January 1995

Escorted by Clayton Koppes, professor of history.

ART TREASURES OF ITALY • June 1995

Escorted by Anne Moore,
director of the Allen Memorial Art Museum.

BRAZIL • August 1995

Escorted by Bill Norris, professor of sociology.

GREECE • October 1995

Escorted by James Helm, professor of classics.

THE MUSIC AND ART OF RUSSIA December 1995-January 1996

Ten-day tour of Moscow and St. Petersburg escorted by
Karen Wolff, dean of the conservatory.

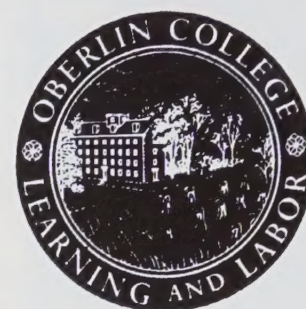
HOLLAND-BELGIUM • Spring 1996

TANZANIA SAFARI • Summer 1996

AUSTRALIA-NEW ZEALAND • Fall 1996

PATAGONIA • Winter 1996-97

For more information write:
Oberlin Alumni Association
105 Bosworth Hall • Oberlin, OH 44074



DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS
ALAN MORAN

FEATURES & NEWS EDITOR
CYNTHIA NICKOLOFF '88

ALUMNI EDITOR
LINDA K. GRASHOFF

PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
RICK SHERLOCK

GRAPHIC DESIGNER
D. MARK GABEL

MAGAZINE COMMITTEE
DAN BERGER '54, CHAIR
ELEANOR MALLET BERGHOLZ '65
ROBERT CALVERT '47
BONNIE DESIMONE '79
SARAH FERGUSON '84
DARCY FREY '83
JANET SILVER GHENT '64
ROBERT HERRICK '41
AARON LEVIN '68
DAVID PENGILLY '68
DANA LYNNE SINGFIELD '91

THE OBERLIN ALUMNI MAGAZINE (ISSN 0029-7518), founded in 1904, is produced and published quarterly by the Oberlin College Office of Communications, 153 W. Lorain St., Oberlin, OH 44074, and distributed to alumni and friends of Oberlin College. Second-class postage paid at Oberlin, Ohio, and additional mailing offices. E-mail address: ALUMMAG@OCVAXC.CC.OBERLIN.EDU.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Alumni Information Services, Bosworth Hall, Oberlin College, Oberlin, OH 44074.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR are welcome. They should be on subjects of interest to readers of this magazine, with emphasis on exchange of views and discussion of ideas.

We publish letters of general interest, except those that are potentially libelous, personally malign someone else, or are not related to issues at Oberlin or contents of the magazine. The large volume of letters to the editor of the *Oberlin Alumni Magazine* prompts us to ask readers to limit length, where possible, to 250 words. Letters may be edited for clarity and condensed.

Send them to: Letters to the Editor, OAM, Office of Communications, 153 W. Lorain Street, Oberlin, OH 44074. Or send them by E-mail (see address above). Please include a daytime telephone number.

We regret that we cannot acknowledge individually every letter and newspaper clipping we receive.

Letters



OAM Brings Good News and Bad



Formerly, news about gay and lesbian alumni was buried in the middle of the *OAM*'s dense class notes. Now we are featured in full-length articles, the interview with cartoonist Alison Bechdel; the Oberlin Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Alumni reunion; poet Fred Chance; and Minnesota politician Allan Spear—all in the winter/spring 1994 issue. Was this a happy confluence of topics and people, or does this reflect a determined effort on the *OAM*'s part to include gay and lesbian alumni in the magazine? Whichever it was, I hope this coverage will continue.

I was crestfallen to read of the death of Kent Jones '81. I knew Kent as a fabulous oboist when we both lived in German House. His is the second death by AIDS of former German House residents. This is a trend I hope will not continue.

THOMAS L. CREWS, JR. '78
Seattle, Washington

Straights Read "Dykes," Too



I was so psyched to see a familiar "Dykes to Watch Out For" face in the upper corner of the winter/spring *OAM*. Cool! No wonder that cartoon has always felt so familiar—she's an Obie. I've since read and sent the article on to a die-hard "Dykes" fan in California. One comment, though. The article noted that there were even straight people who read and enjoy Bechdel's work. Of course there are. Not all heterosexuals are heterosexual.

LIZZ FROST '88
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Introducing John Adams



I sing with the Cabrillo College Symphonic Chorus, and this summer we will be doing John Adams's *Harmonium*. I had never even heard the composer's name until our choral leader said we were going to do the piece at the Cabrillo Music Festival. Joan Goldsmith's article ["*Harmonium* and

Tessitura," Winter/Spring 1994 *OAM*] spoke to issues in her life of a musical and a personal nature and has introduced me to Adams and *Harmonium*. I plan to share the article with other chorus members.

NICK ROYAL '59
Santa Cruz, California

*SATs cannot predict
an individual's
performance, nor do
they measure
intelligence or ability*

Black Militancy Dismays



I read with great dismay about the white male student who was forcibly removed by a black student and a black professor from a meeting for students of color ["Recent Racial Incidents Divide the Campus," Winter/Spring 1994 *OAM*]. If the roles had been reversed, blacks would have been infuriated. In this case and in some others black militancy exceeds the bounds of reason.

JOSEPH KELLEHER '45
St. Petersburg, Florida

Financial-Aid Consensus Still Not Reached



I was truly incensed when I read the letter from Jonathan Sonne and Holly Creighton with regard to the College's alleged "descent into mediocrity" ["Letters," Winter/Spring 1994 *OAM*]. Sonne and Creighton place the blame for this "descent" on the shoulders of African-American students, citing Alumni

Admissions Committee chair Peter Kirsch's statement that alumni would be more inclined to admit a black male student with straight A's and fair-to-poor SAT scores than a white female student with a mediocre academic record and fair SAT scores.

At our last Alumni Council meeting, the Admissions Committee arranged for council members to consider several hypothetical applicants in order to gain insight into the dilemma faced by admissions officers. We were charged with the task of deciding whom to admit to Oberlin based on academic performance, racial and gender diversity, geographic location, and a number of other considerations.

Creighton and Sonne turned this simple exercise into a racial contest by isolating two of the applicants and pitting them against each other. Operating on the principle of white entitlement—that is, each person of color admitted to the College in effect displaces a better qualified, more deserving white applicant—they fabricate a defense of the white student Kirsch mentioned, concluding that the other applicant "would be happier in a less challenging school."

They contend that the black student's low SAT scores indicate he could not succeed at Oberlin. (This is curious, because both applicants' scores were low.) Educators have long accepted the fact that SATs cannot predict an individual's performance, nor—since it is possible to raise one's scores by taking cram courses—do they measure intelligence or ability. As far back as 1983, then-Director of Admissions Carl Bewig '62 was quoted as saying that, because test scores are "culturally biased," he was inclined to overlook low scores if other indicators such as grade-point average were favorable. Our hypothetical black applicant is a straight-A student.

The white student, whose academic record is mediocre, comes from the suburbs. Sonne and Creighton suggest that this should offset the black student's grades because he had to have come from an inferior city school; we were given no indication that his particular school was inferior, however. A high-school student cannot choose where his family lives, but he can choose to utilize available resources to the best of his ability. Our black applicant's perfect academic record indi-

(continued on page 52)

Starr Accepts Aspen Institute Presidency

President S. Frederick Starr has accepted the position of president at the Aspen Institute. He will complete his 11-year term as Oberlin's 12th president on June 30 and begin his new duties July 1.

An international, independent, nonprofit organization, the Aspen Institute is headquartered in Washington, D.C. Its programs are designed to enhance the ability of leaders in business, government, the non-profit sector, academia, and the media to understand and act upon issues challenging the national and international community. Small

groups of policy makers, experts, elected officials, and others gather to identify or clarify emerging issues, propose agendas for interdisciplinary action, and develop policy options.

"In recent years, the Aspen Institute's activities have expanded to a truly global enterprise, and I look forward to working with its unique international network," says Starr.

Starr is the second Oberlin president to lead the institute; William E. Stevenson, Oberlin's 8th president, was its fourth president. Robert Maynard Hutchins '19, president of the University of Chicago and a leading educator and philosopher of education, was among the institute's founders, and playwright Thornton Wilder '19 was present, along with Hutchins, at the Goethe Bicentennial held in

Aspen, Colorado, at which the institute was founded.

In March the American Academy of Arts and Sciences elected Starr a Fellow of the Academy. The academy honors achievement in science, scholarship, the arts, and public affairs, and new members are elected by the membership in recognition of distinguished contributions in their chosen fields. Starr was elected to the academy's educational and scientific administration section.

Oberlin College Board of Trustees chair William Perlik '48 presented a portrait of President Starr to Root Director of Libraries Ray English in May. The portrait now hangs with those of other Oberlin presidents, near the reference section of the Oberlin College Library.

PHOTOGRAPH BY RICK SHERLOCK



Ivy Jane Edmondson Starr, the president's mother and portraitist, and her work.

Downtown Loses Drugstore

For the first time since 1893, the southwest corner of Main and College streets is no longer home to a pharmacy; its most recent occupants have been Kaiser-Wells Pharmacy and, for the last three years, the Oberlin Apothecary. Revco, the national chain that bought the apothecary last year, moved its operations in April to Station Square, a new shopping center about a mile south of downtown.

The drugstore's defection from downtown has left students and townspeople with several concerns. For those without cars, the long trek down Main Street could become a hardship if they get sick and need a prescription, especially during Oberlin's harsh winters. Others lament the loss of a small-town establishment stock-

ing out-of-the-ordinary items, such as good pipe tobaccos, and in which the proprietors and customers know one another

Oberlin's only other drugstore—Drug Mart—is also owned by a national chain, and is located about a mile north of downtown. —CN

PHOTOGRAPH BY RICK SHERLOCK



DP Benefits Approved

Same-sex domestic partners of College employees will receive the same benefits afforded spouses of married heterosexual employees. The Board of Trustees approved the plan at its March meeting.

A review of Oberlin's medical coverage, begun in spring 1992 by the General Faculty (GF) Benefits Committee, culminated in a revamped health-care plan that includes coverage for same-sex partners and which was approved by the GF in fall 1993 and by the trustees in March. The new health-care coverage, along with other traditional benefits such as access to College facilities and tuition remission, will be extended to employees' same-sex domestic partners.

Eclipse Energizes Oberlin Community

Oberlinians are used to their town being described by the adjective *best*: its liberal arts college is one of the best, its conservatory is one of the best, and—for a few brief moments—it was one of the best places in the world to view the annular eclipse of May 10, 1994. Oberlin was a prime location in the “very narrow geographic band” that felt the full effect of the moon crossing the sun’s light path, says Professor of Physics Joe Snider; most people saw only a partial eclipse—a small arc cut out of the sun—or nothing at all unusual.

While several solar eclipses occur each year, the chances of the full effects being visible in a specific location are about one in every 400 years, Associate Professor of Physics Dan Stinebring told the *Oberlin Review*. This year Oberlinians got lucky. Even though the Co-op Bookstore and Gibson’s Bakery had stocked a large quantity of solar shields, there wasn’t a pair to be found within the city limits the morning of May 10, thanks to a media hoopla in the preceding days that also succeeded in drawing what

seemed like every Oberlin citizen outdoors that afternoon.

About noon crowds armed with solar shields, colanders, tinfoil poked with pinholes, and white poster board began forming all over town—Tappan Square, downtown, Wilder Bowl, conservatory courtyard. The biggest crowd gathered near Wright Laboratory of Physics, where the College’s solar telescope and a mirror mounted on an outside wall projected the eclipse’s image onto a screen set up in an inside stairwell. The image was also projected onto an outside wall of Severance Hall.

The festive crowds became more excitable as, at about 12:45 P.M., the moon started to become visible, slowly eating away at the sun. About a half hour later the crowds let loose with spontaneous applause, cheers, and song; the moon, appearing smaller than the sun, had moved dead center. The temperature had dropped seven degrees, streetlights had come on, and what daylight was left emanated from a brilliant rim of light—the annulus—radiating from around the moon. The crowds continued to mill about outdoors as the

moon continued its path eastward; a few die-hards stayed put until it had completely cleared the sun’s path.

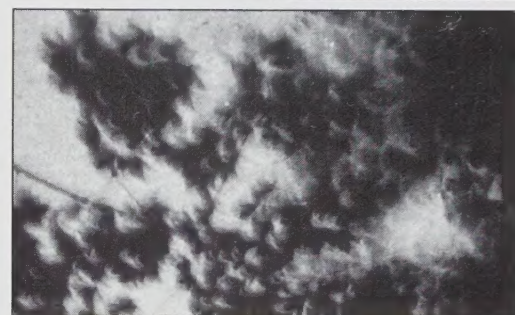
Commenting on the difference between an annular and a total eclipse, physics professor Snider, who has traveled across North America to witness four of the total types, remarked that, while spectacular, annulars

don’t have the same spiritual effect as totals. He may be right, but Oberlin’s eclipse had a noticeable effect on the local population, creating a sense of camaraderie and lightheartedness that led several observers to remark “I wish we could have one of these every day!”

While that’s impossible (remember those odds) some Oberlinians will have a first-hand chance to discover if any difference exists—a total solar eclipse will pass right over Cleveland on April 8, 2024. Mark your calendars. —CN



PHOTOGRAPHS BY RICK SHERLOCK



The solar telescope’s projected image shows the moon almost centered over the sun (above). As the daylight became dimmer, it took on a quality most observers described as “eerie.” Those with cameras took the opportunity to photograph the subtle light and shadow effects (below).

College-UAW Standoff Continues in Labor Negotiations

Although labor-contract negotiations have been stalled for nearly 10 months, College service employees have continued working. Their old contract expired July 1, 1993. The College implemented a new three-year contract in August after a Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service mediator declared an impasse in negotiations between the College and the United Auto Workers (UAW), which represents the employees. That month the UAW filed charges of unfair labor practices against the College with the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB).

In February 1994 the UAW filed

several additional charges against the College with the NLRB, which filed a complaint against the College. Some of the charges were subsequently dropped, but a hearing on the six remaining charges, which included illegal surveillance and discouraging union membership with threats of dismissal and fewer hours, was scheduled for June 6 in the Lorain County Court of Common Pleas. The six charges were dismissed without penalty in May, when the NLRB and the College reached a unilateral agreement that calls for the College, without admitting guilt, to post for 60 days a notice of Oberlin’s acknowledgment of and agreement to

comply with the NLRB rules it was charged with breaking.

An April protest organized by the UAW drew about 250 participants, according to College estimates. Protesters included College employees, students, union members from other locals, and UAW officials. Roberto “Sarge” Aviles, president of the College’s service-workers union, UAW Local 2192, resigned his post the day before the rally. Aviles resigned, he told a local paper, because he had personal problems with the UAW’s regional leadership, and that their inability to work harmoniously might be hindering negotiations.

7 Inductees Complete NCAC Dream Teams



Winiarski



Sugerman



Marshall



Varma

The North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) has filled all positions on its 10th Anniversary teams, and seven alumni are among the last inductees, bringing to 16 the number of Oberlinians named to the All-Decade teams.

Ronald Lee "Chip" Winiarski '90 has been named to the anniversary baseball team. A right-handed pitcher, Winiarski was named to the NCAC first team in 1988 and 1989, and in 1988 he was second in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division III with an earned-run average of 1.47. After graduating from Oberlin Winiarski spent three and a half years playing minor-league baseball in the Cleveland Indians and Chicago White Sox farm systems.

Rebecca Sugerman '90 has been named to the All-Decade women's lacrosse team. A 1990 All-American, she earned All-NCAC honors

during each of her four years on Oberlin's team and regional All-America honors during the last three years.

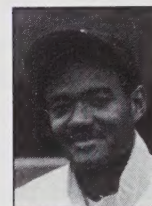
Nick Marshall '86 has been named to the men's outdoor track and field All-Decade team. During his last season with the Yeomen he set a conference and a College record when he completed the 5000-meter run in 15:17.60.

Three-time (1989, 1990, and 1991) NCAC Player of the Year Kavita Varma '91 has been named to the anniversary women's tennis team. Varma earned All-NCAC singles honors during her last three seasons with the Yeowomen and All-NCAC doubles honors during the last two.

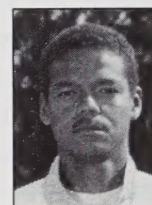
Three Oberlinians have been named to the anniversary men's tennis team. In 1990 Moustapha Diop '92 earned All-America honors in doubles and was named to the NCAC first doubles team. With a career record in singles of 76-35, he was

named to the NCAC first team in 1990, 1991, and 1992. Career doubles

partners Carl Erikson and Ousmane Diop, both '94, earned All-America doubles honors in 1993 and All-NCAC doubles honors in 1991, 1992, 1993, and 1994. In singles competition Diop earned All-NCAC honors in 1992 and 1993, and Erikson earned All-America honors in 1993 and All-NCAC honors during each of his four years on the team. Erikson, the conference's 1993 Player of the Year, was named CoSIDA/GTE Academic All-American in 1992 and 1993 and the Intercollegiate Tennis Association All-American Scholar Athlete in 1993.



M. Diop



O. Diop



Erikson

A Student's Perspective

The Ohio Public Interest Research Group (OPIRG) debate was finally settled in late April when the General Faculty approved a new funding system: OPIRG's \$4.50 fee will automatically be included in the activity-fee term-bill charge, but a card will be included in each student's enrollment package that will, if returned, entitle the student to a term-bill credit of \$4.50. The system had previously been approved by the Student Senate and the Student Life Committee, but some OPIRG opponents said the new system was no compromise since the task force that created it was primarily composed of OPIRG supporters. ▼ This spring some students, notably the editors of the conservative *Independent Thinker*, called for the disbanding of the Student Senate. Senators themselves endorsed the idea of eliminating the 10 organizational senator seats, which would scale back the number of senators to 20 elected at large. The idea was placed on a referendum, but the results satisfied neither of the two requirements of a constitutional amendment: half of the campus must vote, and two-thirds must vote yes. The referendum itself had a few

problems, as every vote cast on the first day was tampered with when the ballots were stolen from a box in the mailroom.

▼ Concerned that students "have first amendment rights off campus," Professor of Politics Ronald Kahn and the Student Life Committee, which he chairs, sent a proposal to the General Faculty that would allow exclusive gatherings off-campus. Out of concern for possible erosion of Oberlin's traditional ban on secret societies, faculty objected and sent the proposal back to the committee. ▼ Fifth-year pianist Grace Hong was astonished spring semester to learn she could not dedicate her senior recital to her mother, who was killed in a January car accident. The rule preventing dedications on recital programs, which applies only to students and not faculty, was enacted several years ago after a student dedicated a recital to a dead dog. Hong reached a compromise: along with her program she distributed additional pieces of paper announcing her dedication. ▼ Registration for fall classes was very different this spring: REGISTER, a new interactive computer-registration system,

(continued on page 8)



Conservatory Dedicates Performances to the Memory of Arleen Augér

Soprano Arleen Augér, a renowned recitalist, concert soloist, recording artist, and opera star, visited Oberlin in November 1990, giving a recital in Finney Chapel, conducting master classes, and using the conservatory library's resources for researching and planning upcoming programs. The brevity of her visit belies the impact Oberlin and its students had on her; she was impressed enough to leave to the conservatory her personal collection of more than 1000 scores and nearly 500 recordings.

Augér's bequest was made public after her death from cancer last June at age 53. This spring the conservatory dedicated the Oberlin College Choir and Chamber Orchestra's two performances of J.S. Bach's Mass in B minor to Augér, who had been admired for her interpretations of Bach. "With gratitude for the impression her artistry left on our students and for her generosity, Oberlin Conservatory dedicates these performances of the B

minor Mass to the memory of Arleen Augér," wrote Dean Karen Wolff in the concert program.

The choir, orchestra, and soloists Heidi Person '87, soprano; Assistant Professor of Voice Lorraine Manz, mezzo-soprano; Jeffrey Thomas '78, tenor; and artist-diploma student Frank Hernandez, bass, performed the Mass in Finney Chapel April 27 and in Cleveland's Severance Hall May 1 under the direction of Edward Maclary, assistant professor of choral conducting. Maclary "led a glowing account in which every strand sounded lovingly prepared and motivated by a deep understanding of the work's intricate layering of techniques and textural devices," wrote Cleveland *Plain Dealer* music critic Donald Rosenberg in his May 3 review of the Severance performance.

"The choir of 47 voices was vivid," wrote Rosenberg; Person's "lovely lyric timbre, sure intonation and pinpoint articulation made every phrase a welcome journey";



PHOTOGRAPH BY WANDA BENVENUTI '94

"Thomas' tenor proved expertly sweet and nimble"; "Manz brought sensitive shaping to her duties"; and "Hernandez's bass was authoritative, focused and flexible."

Calling the performance "melifluous" and "mesmerizing," Rosenberg described how, after the final note faded away, the performers and audience faced one another in "rapt silence." "Bach had been honored," he wrote. "So had Augér."

Soprano Heidi Person (left), mezz-soprano Lorraine Manz, tenor Jeffrey Thomas, and bass Frank Hernandez (not shown) performed Bach's Mass in B minor with the Oberlin College Choir and Chamber Orchestra in Cleveland's Severance Hall

Black Alumni Meet the Langston Challenge North Hall Named John Mercer Langston Hall

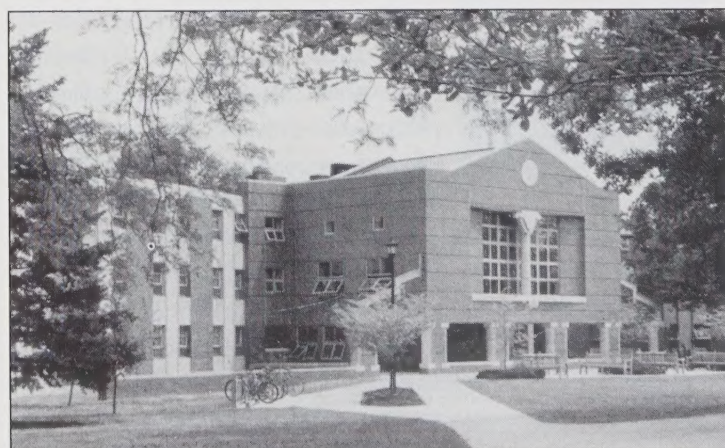
Organizers of the Langston Challenge—a trustee-sponsored challenge fund—had until early summer 1994 to match \$50,000 in pledges raised by former Board of Trustees chair George Bent '52. The brainchild of Lester Barclay and David Hoard, both '81, the Langston Challenge aimed to get more black alumni involved in fund-raising.

By the end of May the fund-raisers had met their goal, raising more than \$50,000 in cash and nearly \$10,000 in pledges. The effort will provide funds for the Black Alumni Emergency Fund, which supports stu-

dents experiencing financial crisis.

At its March meeting the board approved a motion to rename North Hall in honor of John Mercer Langston, Class of 1849. Believed to be Ohio's first black lawyer, he founded Howard University's law school and served a year as the university's acting president. During the Civil War, as a recruiting officer for the Union Army, he organized Ohio's first black regiment—the Fifth United States Colored Troops. After the war he was a general inspector with the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands. He helped found the National Equal Rights

League and was United States Minister to Haiti from 1877 to 1885.



PHOTOGRAPH BY RICK SHERLOCK

John Mercer Langston Hall, formerly North Hall

Campus Visits Spell Success for Admissions

Admissions officers haven't had it easy the last few years. A number of oft-reported factors, including a decline of 18-year-olds

in the population, have had negative impact on admissions statistics at most colleges and universities. Oberlin is fighting back by inviting prospective stu-

dents to campus, where they can see first hand what Oberlin College has to offer.

In April the admissions staff held the most successful All Roads Lead to Oberlin program ever. More than 750 people—students admitted for fall 1994 enrollment and their parents—took the All Roads opportunity to visit Oberlin. For the first time in its nine-year history, two sessions were held and scheduled for weekdays, enabling more students to attend and allowing access to real classes. Participants completed satisfaction surveys, and while the responses have yet to be evaluated, nearly all the face-to-face and anecdotal feedback received by the admissions office has been positive, says Associate Director of Admissions Martha Allen.

The conservatory schedules six weekends during the audition season—November through March—for applicants and their parents to visit Oberlin as well as for applicants to audition. This year each weekend attracted from 50 to 150 people, says Director of Conservatory Admissions Michael Manderen. The conservatory hosts a reception for the students and their families, who are also invited to attend classes and concerts. The concerts may be previously scheduled events, such as an honors

or faculty recitals, or specially arranged events for the visitors, but all are designed to provide applicants “with a special, intimate window” into the Oberlin scene, says Manderen.

While final admission figures for the Class of 1998 will not be available until later this summer, there is already evidence that admissions-office efforts are paying off. The conservatory received 933 applications—the third highest in its history. Forty-seven percent of the 323 admitted applicants scored between 4 plus and 5 plus (the highest) on their audition evaluations, says Manderen. In late May the college had enrolled 633 applicants, exceeding by 35 its new-student goal of 598, says Director of College Admissions Debra Chermonte. The group, comprised of scholars with diverse interests from around the world, includes social activists, Eagle scouts, literary-magazine editors, and Ultimate Frisbee players. The admitted applicants' mean SAT score is 1243, 19 points higher than last year's incoming class.

Oberlin also extends a welcome to

students just beginning to think about what colleges and universities they'd like to attend. In March, 33 black 10th and 11th graders from Howard County, Maryland, spent one day and two nights in Oberlin—the first stop on a week-long tour of schools in the Midwest and the South designed to broaden their educational horizons. In Oberlin they attended classes, workshops, and a lunch-discussion session with faculty and students of color; met with Jonathan Williams, associate director of admissions and coordinator of the Multicultural Recruitment Program; and ate dinner at the Afrikan Heritage House.

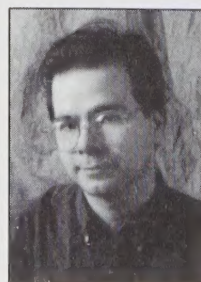
In April Freedom Act, an Amherst, Ohio, group that works with Russian exchange students, brought nearly 40 16- and 17-year-olds from the former Soviet Union to Oberlin in two groups. Each group spent a day talking with Russian students enrolled in Oberlin and with Russian-studies majors, attending an information session in Russian House, and touring the Allen Memorial Art Museum. —CN

STUDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

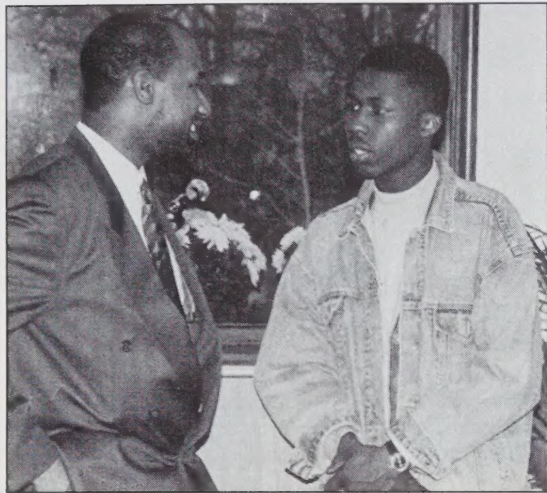
(continued from page 6)

was used for the first time. REGISTER will prevent the unfortunate occurrence of blank registration cards by immediately notifying students if courses are filled. Also, each class has its own access code, thus enabling the computer to give preference to upperclassmen. ▼ East Hall will get a facelift to solve what Director of Residential Services Harry Dawe calls its mid-life crisis. East will become the first campus residence to have in each room built-in access to cable television and the campus computer network. ▼ Students participating in last November's Bike Derby were found guilty by Community Board in March and sentenced to five hours of community service, with a letter of admonition placed in each student's file until graduation. ▼ The Columbia Scholastic Press Association gave the Oberlin Review a silver crown. Only seven of the 690 student-newspaper entries received a gold or silver crown, and all three gold winners and one of four silver winners were dailies, giving the Review the right to claim its status as one of the top college weekly newspapers in the country.

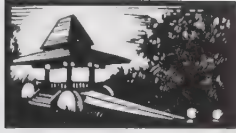
—David Milstead '94



Milstead



Herm Beavers '81 (left) talks with prospective student Addis Messam during this year's second All Roads Lead to Oberlin program. Beavers, an assistant professor of English at the University of Pennsylvania, was the speaker at the April 21 Vernon Johns Scholars Program dinner. At press time Messam, an admitted applicant from Cleveland, remained undecided about in which college or university he would enroll.



Article on Homosexuality and Morality Sparks Campus Debate

A *Wall Street Journal* op-ed piece and an *Oberlin Review* response brought the subjects of morality and homosexuality to the forefront of campus concerns during spring semester.

The February 24 *WSJ* piece, "Morality and Homosexuality," signed by Professor of Religion Gilbert Meilaender and the other 20 members of the Ramsey Colloquium, a group of Christian and Jewish scholars, says efforts by gay and lesbian activists to change society could do damage before "what is truly natural reasserts itself." Excerpted from a larger piece published in the March issue of *First Things*, the article contends that discrimination is necessary. "In a fallen creation, many quite common attitudes and behaviors must be straightforwardly designated as sin. . . . civilization itself depends on the making of such distinctions (between, finally, right and wrong)."

The March 4 *Review* piece, "Homosexuality and Morality: A Reply," signed by 48 Oberlin faculty members, addresses what it calls "misinformation, crude stereotypes, and repugnant scapegoating" in the *WSJ* piece, taking it to task on "four serious errors." First, the "intellectually naive" statement uses a language of absolutes shaped by politically motivated stereotypes. Second, it implies that gays, lesbians, and bisexuals are preoccupied with sex. Third, while ignoring the dehumanizing problems faced by homosexuals youths, it uses the "deliberately provocative" stereotype of predatory behavior toward vulnerable young people to profess concern for fostering sexual responsibility. Fourth, it links decades-old challenges to traditional families with a presumed homosexual threat.

In a March 11 letter to the editor of the *Review* Meilaender noted that faculty comments were based on the

WSJ excerpt, which left out some of the original article's crucial passages. Meilaender was also concerned by accusations that the *WSJ* article "serves to sanction homophobia." "Just as it is not necessarily unpatriotic to criticize the activities of one's country, to dissent on other moral questions need not imply evil intent. . . . Since to disagree on this issue is to face such a charge, we create circumstances in which all who disagree fear to speak. I do not think my colleagues should issue such an invitation."

Students didn't wait for an invitation. Copies of the article, with the words "Obies read this and fear. Rampant homophobia" written on them, were posted around campus. The Student Senate approved and submitted to the General Faculty (GF) a statement reprimanding Meilaender. The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Union (LGBU) and Outrage/Oberlin, two student groups, formed committees to write letters to the *Review* and the *WSJ*, mailed flyers to all members of the campus, discussed a possible boycott of Meilaender's classes, and investigated the possibility of bringing sexual-harassment charges against him. Possible judicial action and boycott were hotly debated by students and faculty, with some stressing the need for an intellectual response and discourse.

"This is primarily an intellectual and political struggle," said Professor of History Clayton Koppes at a public forum organized by the GF Lesbian, Gay Men, and Bisexual Concerns Committee. "It is not a question of particular people." The boycott idea was also discouraged because, as Professor of English Sandra Zagarell said at the same forum, "These are issues in the world and they need discussion."

Although Professor of Art William Hood, chair of the LGB Concerns Committee, acknowledged that, for homosexual and bisexual members of the community, the *WSJ* article

amounted to a "terrifying and offensive" attack on each individual's personhood, he ultimately concurred with Koppes and Zagarell. "It doesn't hurt anybody to confront ideas you don't agree with," he said at the forum. "The whole world is not supportive all the time."

During March and April the committee sponsored a series of presentations designed, says Hood, to create a structure for rational, productive, and empowering debate. When asked if he expected any further campus repercussions, Hood replied, "Unfortunately not." What would he like to see happen? "We need to find a way to discuss matters of sexuality as they affect our common lives, as we've done with race and gender issues." —CN

Yeomen Baseball Becomes Yeopeople Baseball

Sophomore Erin Marks grew up with baseball, playing pick-up games and, in high-school later, fast-pitch softball. When she joined Oberlin's varsity baseball team this year, she made North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) history, becoming what is believed to be the first woman member of a traditionally male conference team, said NCAC associate director Brian Sullivan at the start of the season.

Marks also threw the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) for a loop; an NCAA statistician, when contacted by an *Oberlin Review* reporter, said that no one in his office knew of any women playing on traditionally male NCAA teams since Julie Croteau, another baseball player, graduated from Maryland's St. Mary's College in 1992.

A pinch hitter and a centerfielder, Marks played eight of Oberlin's 23 games this season. With eight at-bats, she had one RBI, three walks, three strikeouts, and one ground out. The Yeopeople finished the season with a record of 1-22.



Marks

It's the fall of 1969. An eager Oberlin sophomore, I've been assigned by the *Oberlin Review* to write an article about a new poetry journal edited by six Oberlin professors. It's a slim tan volume, simple yet elegant in design. The cover reproduces an antique postcard picturing a lumber crew of 60 or so men posed around the base of a huge redwood. The table of contents lists several major poets whose work I know (including William Stafford, Denise Levertov, Gary Snyder, and Robert Francis), a number of poets new to me (Dennis Schmitz, Wendell Berry), and a significant number of poems in translation (by such eminent translators as W.S. Merwin and Robert Bly). I begin to read. I get excited.

Flash forward to the present. I've been helping edit *Field* for the 17 years I've taught in the English department, and the magazine itself, amazingly, is 25 years old. Some changes have been introduced over the years, of course. But we still use a postcard as the cover (though now usually in color). We still publish a healthy mix of established poets, new writers, and poetry in translation. And the excitement about discovering and publishing new writing so evident in that first issue is still very much a hallmark of what *Field* stands for.

Careful perusers of the back pages of the alumni magazine, where we've often printed ads and special offers, will know about *Field*. But since even Oberlin loyalists sometimes confess confusion about what the journal is or what it represents to the literary world at large, maybe this silver anniversary is a good occasion for describing and modestly celebrating what we've been up to for 25 years in the basement of Rice.

Field is a twice-yearly magazine devoted to contemporary poetry and poetics. There are now four editors (the others are Professor of Creative Writing Stuart Friebert, Longman Professor of English David Young, and Cleveland State University's Emerita Professor of English Alberta Turner). We have no narrow agenda or aesthetic: our goal is simply to dis-

cover and promote the best poetry being written in English and the best poetry from other languages translated into English. We try to be as open and inclusive as possible; we are not ruled by name or reputation, and indeed our happiest moments as editors come when we discover a completely unknown writer good enough to be accepted. At the same time, we're notoriously rigorous in our selection process: we print well under 1 percent of the thousands of poems submitted to us yearly, and the list of famous poets we've rejected is lengthy. Besides poems, most spring issues now include essay-length reviews of new books of poetry. Most fall issues include a symposium—poets writing about that issue's featured poet.

The result of this process is a journal widely and enthusiastically celebrated for its high quality. Among that portion of the world interested in contemporary writing, *Field* has helped to make Oberlin's reputation as surely as the Conservatory of Music has among music lovers. Numerous poets have confided to us that *Field* is the journal they care most about, the one to which they send their best work first. And while a poetry magazine is never going to achieve mass-market status, our subscribers and readers are devoted followers, and we have a healthy distribution through bookstores and libraries.

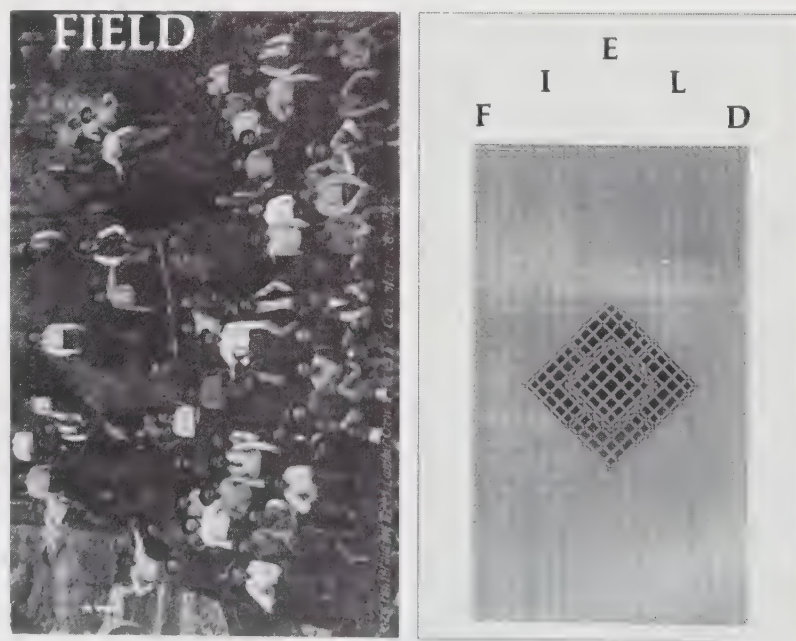
Clearly, *Field* is far from being a parochial effort. Yet alumni might be interested to know that a number of Oberlin graduates have made it into its pages, often in their very first appearance in a national magazine. Some of these writers have gone on to publish volumes that have received considerable attention; among them are Franz Wright '77, winner of a Whiting Award and author of several collections, most recently *The Night World and the Word Night*; Robin Behn '79, author of *Paper Bird* and the textbook *The Practice of Poetry*; Bruce Beasley '80, author of *Spirituals* and *The Creation*; and Thylas Brasier Moss '81, nominated for the National Book Critics Circle Award for *Pyramid of Bone*. Other exciting poets still working toward first books include Jonah Winter '84, Dina Ben-Lev '86, and Graham Hettlinger '88, among many others. The presence of the magazine, and the commitment to new writing it represents, helps attract applicants to Oberlin's thriving creative-writing program, and it's a pleasure when we can recognize their later success by publishing them.

Field's accomplishments have led to the founding of the Oberlin College Press and its two successful book series: the Field Translation Series and the Field Poetry Series. Since 1978 the translation series has published, to considerable acclaim, 20 volumes of poetry in distinguished translation

from a wide variety of the world's languages—most recently a selected Rilke translated by David Young. And last year we inaugurated the poetry series of current American poetry with two extraordinary volumes, Dennis Schmitz's *About Night* and Marianne Boruch's *Moss Burning*; a third book, Russell Edson's prose poem collection *The Tunnel*, has just appeared.

Our publishing enterprise, run on a shoe-string budget and with entirely voluntary labor apart from part-time secretarial help, is thriving. Almost without our knowing it, *Field* has become a literary institution, influential and widely admired. Here's to the next 25 years!

DAVID WALKER is associate professor of English at Oberlin College.



For *Field's* first cover (left) the editors chose a postcard mailed in the early 1900s; the postmark is obscured, but it bears a 1¢ stamp. For *Field's* 50th cover (right) the editors commissioned a brand new postcard: a geometric design reproduced in silver and gold diffraction foils. Mailing one of the anniversary postcards costs 19¢.



PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN SEYFRIED

Field's editors: (from left) Turner, Young, Walker, and Frieibert.

A Field Anniversary

The First Angel

In the picture he looks like anyone, fishing,
intent on the prospects of one pure line of thought
as though he's holding on to some great

kite that will lift him.

You had met him before at the docks once or twice,
a summer kid, you said, named Jim.

But how he happened to look for you that day,
lonely for talk, wandering around
where he thought you might live,

so that when you came out of your rented room,
heavy with news of your best friend dead
and the afternoon was gone and the evening

gone and the stars and the gutted street—
he was waiting there and took you,
he took you up in his small arms.

Robin Behn '79

Field #29, Fall 1983

Field magazine doesn't have pictures. It doesn't have ads. No gossip either. It does have poetry—by some of the best contemporary poets—and in the last 25 years it's become one of the most respected literary journals in the world. To celebrate the magazine's 25th birthday

and 50th issue, one of its editors lets us in on what's been called "Oberlin's best-kept secret."

by David Walker '72

Join the *Field* Party

Subscribe to the magazine
and order the books

Call or write for a free catalog:

Oberlin College Press
Rice Hall 17

10 N. Professor St.
Oberlin, OH 44074-1095
Phone: (216) 775-8408

Please ask your local library or
bookstore to stock *Field*, if
they don't already.

EXILED FROM GUYVILLE, LIZ PHAIR RETURNS TO OBERLIN

Since exploding on to the music scene last summer singer-songwriter Liz Phair '89 has been branded both a feminist and a sexpot. Performing in Oberlin in April she paused to shed some light on the musician behind the labels.

By Janet Degges '93

When the posters first began appearing on campus, some people thought they were part of an April Fool's Day joke. Liz Phair, alternative pop rock's celebrated diva, couldn't really be coming to Oberlin April 1, could she? She could and she did—wowing a nearly standing-room audience in Finney Chapel with the rollicking lyrics, distinctive guitar work, and versatile voice that got her named 1993's best new female singer and runner-up artist of the year by *Rolling Stone*.

"It's really weird being back," Phair said before the concert, her first visit to campus since graduating in 1989 with a double major in art history and studio art. "I got this panicked feeling when I drove onto campus, like those dreams you have about being a little kid again. I had to keep reminding myself, I did graduate, I did, I swear . . ."

Performing at Oberlin was another first for the self-taught guitarist. "I hung around with people in the whole band scene, probably because I played, [but] I never played for anyone." In fact, most of her friends didn't realize she had been writing songs since she was a child. "Boyfriends sort of knew, but not really," she says.

"I only made myself play in front of people a year and a half ago. Of course I did it in the most brutal way possible. It was just me and my guitar in this horrible little club in the neighborhood [Chicago's Wicker Park] where I was living. It was the most horrible thing I could imagine—I have huge stage fright—but I knew I wanted to put out an album, and I realized I was going to have to perform sooner or later."

Wicker Park—where Phair had been supporting herself by selling her charcoal drawings—has been described as a

"musician/artist/slacker community." A spawning ground for such male-dominated indie (independent label) bands as Urge Overkill, the neighborhood has been nicknamed "Guyville"

in reference to its large population of long-haired, ennui- and angst-ridden, Levi-and-black-work-boot-clad young men.

After that first performance Phair says she "got down to business" by hooking up with her friend and Idful Studio head Brad Wood. Their work caught the attention of Matador Records, and in May 1993 Phair's first album—*Exile in Guyville*—hit the record

It's as though there is only one prom queen position. I don't see that being done to male bands—there is plenty of room for them, but there are only a few places for women.

stands. Crowned *Spin* magazine's best record of 1993, the album acknowledges, in title and content, Phair's status as a thinking, feeling female in Guyville and the Rolling Stones' 1972 rock masterpiece, *Exile on Main Street*. For Guyville Phair chose from her body of songs 18 that she felt matched Main Street's 18 in tone, intent, and context, and she arranged them in the same five-song, four-song, five-song, four-song thematic groups found on the Stones' four-record set.

Some critics have interpreted the modeling of Guyville on Main Street as, variously, Phair's feminist response to, refutation of, or commentary on the Stones' rampant machismo. The singer-songwriter has also been described as a neofeminist, perhaps because of her songs' blunt depictions of female sexuality, which have been described as "so explicit as to defy paraphrase" by male writers of mainstream-magazine articles with titles like "Sex and the Single Songwriter" and "Talkin' Dirty." The down-and-dirty sex is there all right, but Phair also sings about forging her own identity and wanting a steadfast lover, leading Sassy maga-



zine to describe her lyrics as concerned with “the minutiae of male-female relations and girly empowerment.”

How does Phair feel about the labeling? “It doesn’t surprise me that much,” she says, “but the problem of having labeled someone feminist is that you expect them to be a certain way, and you’re bound to be disappointed.”

Perhaps those attracted to Phair’s reputation for one-upping the Rolling Stones in the sexual-posturing game would be disappointed to learn that Guyville is, in one respect, Phair’s homage to the Stones’ throbbing rock ‘n’ roll.

“The Stones were always the band for me,” she told *Chicago Tribune* rock-music critic Greg Kot last May. “Forget art, forget quality, forget the whole thing—they just do it for me. I get a pleasurable feeling between the ribs and the knees—and I’m not speaking sexually—when I listen to them. You get that stomach crunch.”

Phair’s music has been having the same effect on her audiences. Critics are as impressed with her visceral tunes as they are with her unabashed lyrics. Phair has described her sound as “me, my guitar, and a feel”; critics laud her “cool, offhand guitar work,” and “sturdy riffs” that cut through “the surf like a shark fin.” Her vocal style—she can sound simultaneously bitter and wistful one minute and ferocious the next—has been compared to that of Patti Smith, Joni Mitchell, the Pretenders’ Chrissie Hynde, and Fleetwood Mac’s Christine McVie.

While she’s ambivalent about being labeled a feminist rocker, Phair says she is somewhat disturbed at being classified as a “woman singer.” “There was a while when I felt like

P.J. Harvey, Juliana Hatfield, and I were being pitted against each other, as though there was only one prom queen position, and who was going to get it? I don’t see that being done

to male bands—there is plenty of room for them, but there are only a few places for women.”

Phair credits her Oberlin experience for helping her deal with the pigeonholing and other demands of fame. As a student Phair often got “ticked off” by her peers’ proclivity for arguing incessantly over what she often considered trivial matters, but since leaving Oberlin her attitude has changed.

“After I left and met people who hadn’t had [a similar] experience, I began to really value the exposure to ideas and the mobility of thought and intention. I think there’s stuff I’ll owe Oberlin for the rest of my life. It brought out my natural character, and I learned to stand up for myself and argue my point.”

Phair recently completed her second album, which will be released sometime this summer, but she isn’t sure how long she’ll continue her musical career. “When I started taking off, I told myself: ‘Oberlin had five years, I’ll give this five years. And if it’s great, maybe I’ll keep on with it, but if it isn’t working, that’s it.’”

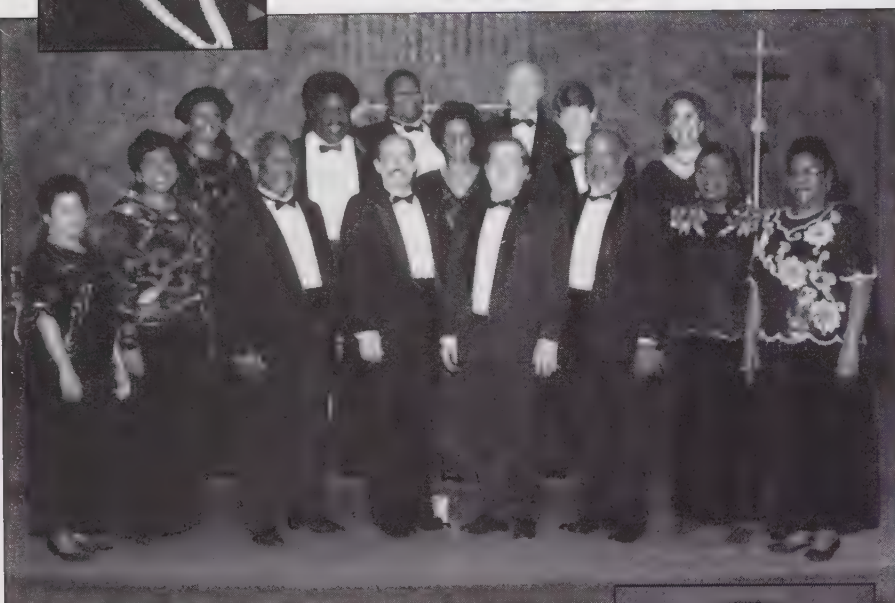
If anyone can give up the fame, Phair can. Like she says in “Strange Loop,” the last cut on *Exile in Guyville*: “The fire you like so much in me/Is the mark of someone adamantly free.”

JANET DEGGES graduated from Oberlin last year with a double major in English and religion. She is an intern in the College’s Office of Communications.

“I think there’s stuff I’ll owe Oberlin for the rest of my life. It brought out my natural character, and I learned to stand up for myself and argue my point.”



Monroe



Spiritual Renaissance Singers of Tampa.

The Spiritual Renaissance Singers of Tampa were born of passion, frustration, and exercise. "I teach applied voice," says Annetta Monroe '62. "I would mention spirituals to my students and they'd never heard of them. They had experience with gospel, but they didn't know Marian Anderson or Paul Robeson. Black and white students. I thought, this is a legacy that's dying, and if we don't do something about it, it *will* die."

"Annetta and I were walking partners as well as long-term friends," says Patricia Johnson Trice '59. "We were walking along, talking about all the wonderful arrangements of spirituals that we used to do that are not done now. And one of us said—I don't even know which one it was—'You know we ought to form a group.' And there was a silence. And then we said, 'Well let's *do* it.' We had our first rehearsal in August 1989 and our first performance in February '90."

Spiritual Entrepreneurs

Portraits of Oberlinians involved in preserving and performing spirituals could fill a small museum, although you'd have trouble getting them to sit still long enough to get a picture painted. There are the accompanist/coaches like Sylvia Olden Lee '38 (see sidebar), and William Duncan Allen '28, '36, whose long



Trice

Deep River:

Oberlin Alumni Are Preserving the Legacy of African-American Spirituals

career includes accompanying such singers as William Warfield, Todd Duncan, George Shirley, and Adele Addison. [Allen's 85th birthday was celebrated with a three and a half hour concert described in the Winter 1992 *OAM*.]

There are the collector/performers: Joe Hickerson '57, who tours as a folk musician (always including a spiritual or two in each performance) while holding down a day job as head of the Archive of Folk Culture at the Library of Congress; and Charlene Moore Cooper '59, also in Washington, D.C., who collects songs the way others collect wildflowers. Her tape recorder has gone to the eastern shore of Maryland, to the hills of West Virginia, to Pennsylvania. She asks the old people to sing songs that even older people taught them, and then brings these songs back to her Washington, D.C., church choir and



Allen



Hickerson and his son, Mike

BY JOAN OLIVER GOLDSMITH '73



Cooper

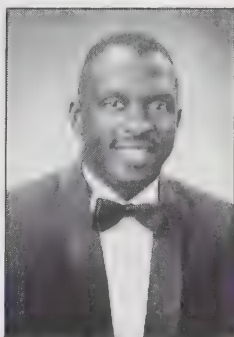
her small ensembles, which perform under the name Praise!

There are Walter Anderson '37 (see sidebar) and Marjorie Witt Johnson '35, who incorporated spirituals into their social-work activities at Cleveland's Karamu House in the late 1930s and early 1940s, Johnson through dance and Anderson through song. Johnson combines social work, spirituals, and dance to this day,

and is writing a book on the subject.

There are people like Moses Hogan '79, pianist and professor of music at Dillard University in New Orleans, who start out in one capacity—in his case an arranger—and find themselves expanding their skills and lives to fill the demands of the music. Hogan became a conductor after founding the Moses G. Hogan Chorale.

Passion and frustration characterize many of the Oberlinians striving to preserve and perform African-American spirituals: passion for the music that François Clemmons '67 calls "the first important original music that we Americans have contributed to the world community," and frustration that the oral tradition may be dying with the passing of musicians who learned the songs from their grandparents and great-grandparents. The champions



Hogan

A Checkered Past: Spirituals at Oberlin

OBERLIN COLLEGE'S HISTORY with African-American spirituals is rich, but not invariably supportive. In 1871 Oberlin was a stop on the first tour of the Fisk Jubilee Singers, a group that was to become nationally and internationally renowned for their performances of spirituals. Oberlin numbers among its alumni R. Nathaniel Dett, a member of the Class of 1908 and a giant in the field: a teacher, choir master, and arranger whose collections were published in the 1920s and '30s.

However, by the 1960s the prevailing opinion seems to have been that African-American spirituals were not



Abromeit

quite respectable enough for classical musicians. The conservatory voice faculty refused permission for François Clemmons to program spirituals on his 1967 senior recital. He responded by omitting the songs from the program, but performing them as encores.

Oberlin has loosened up considerably since then. According to Gerald Crawford, professor of singing and director of the Division of Vocal Studies, African-American spirituals appear from time to time in auditions and on senior recitals with no resistance from the voice faculty.

Oberlin's most recent venture into the preservation of African-American spirituals is the work of Kathleen Abromeit, public-services librarian at the Conservatory of Music library. Her passion is not so much for the African-American spiritual but for the accessibility of information. The day it took her an hour and a half to find an arrangement of a spiritual for a singer was the last straw. She began creating the Spirituals Index—a database of arrangements for soloists. One can search for a song by uniform title (in modern English spelling, e.g., "Little David Play on Your Harp"), alternate titles (in dialect, e.g., "Li'l David Play on Yo' Hawp"), or under one of 13 topics such as death, suffering, faith/assurance, praise, aspiration, women, or Jesus. Currently, all music in the index (both in print and out) is owned by Oberlin. However, Abromeit hopes to expand it and perhaps have it commercially published some day. —JOG

Sylvia Olden Lee: Sustaining the Heritage of African-American Spirituals

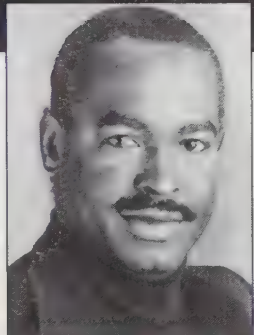
Sylvia Olden Lee '38 has the voice of a vocal coach: light, thin, accurate, and full of energy. A consummate story teller, she punctuates her words with italics; her voice shoots up at least a fifth on the important words, and then glissandos down. She is unable to speak in the third person for longer than a few seconds. The characters seemingly appear before her and she talks to them directly.

In 1990 Lee coached Jesse Norman and Kathleen Battle for their Carnegie Hall performance and broadcast "Spirituals in Concert" (the recording is available on the Deutsche Grammophon label). A voice coach formerly with the Curtis Institute of Music, she currently teaches vocal performance at Howard University.

Here are two stories from a recent interview. —JOG

MY GREAT-GRANDFATHER ON my father's side was born a slave. His mother (which makes it great-great), with her 11 or 12 children, was put out on that trail of tears in 1830-something to move from South Carolina to reservations in Oklahoma and Arizona. She got to Nashville, and she said, "I can't go no further, and they can't make me," so she squatted there.

The kids were split up and they were bought. A kindly



Harlem Spiritual Ensemble

of spirituals are frustrated when the performance of African-American spirituals (folk songs that emerged from the pain and religious fervor of slaves) is supplanted by gospel (20th-century music that requires microphones and instruments to support singers).

Far more than frustrated, some are infuriated by what they call the "trivialization" of African-American spirituals: spirituals have frequently been "white faced," says Calvin Taylor '70, pianist, performer, and arranger.

"In my lifetime spirituals have become the dessert," agrees choral conductor Charlene Cooper. "They are sung as encores. The arrangements are buoyant, optimistic, in high keys, in stylized fashion, with Hollywood endings. It trivializes what they clearly meant in the lives of those who sang them."

Unexpected Callings

The passion to preserve African-American spirituals has led some classically trained musicians to collect, arrange, perform, and come together in ways they never anticipated.

The Spiritual Renaissance Singers of Tampa, formed by Monroe and Trice, are unusual in that they are a mixed-race group, and they have no director. There are about 20 singers, many of whom are professional musicians, although no one is paid to work in the ensemble.

"Each person has as much right as anybody to contribute to

the artistic and musical decisions," says Trice, a professor of music at Hillsborough Community College. "As a result, things don't get done real fast, but they do get done."

Monroe, an associate professor of voice and coordinator of the vocal area at the University of South Florida, sees "a cohesiveness about the group that I don't find in groups that have one conductor."

As for having whites in the group, Monroe argues that the "black sound" that spirituals require is actually a "rich depth of quality—a quality of feeling and a quality of sound. It's a soul kind of thing. We have people who are white by skin color but not by voice, nor by interpretive ability, nor by what you'd think their experience must have been."

François Clemmons's love for spirituals led him, he says, to become "an entrepreneur against my will." An operatic tenor, Clemmons is the founder and director of both the Harlem Spiritual Ensemble—a group of seven singers and one instrumentalist who tour extensively in the United States and abroad—and the American Negro Spiritual Research Foundation, Inc. The foundation has several purposes: it sponsors concerts of spirituals (by Clemmons's group and others) in institutions that cannot afford to pay, such as schools; it has a central library of arrangements of spirituals, both current and out-of-print; and it plans to establish a network of choral groups that regularly program spirituals.

"I looked around in the early '70s and '80s and realized there was no professional ensemble, like the Bach Aria group or the Handel Society, dedicated to American Negro spirituals. I thought that was a

couple watched my great-grandfather. They took him and put him out to the white church and made him a sexton. They went against the law and taught him how to read and write. The couple stipulated that when they died he would be free. So he was free, and his daughter grew up free and went to Fisk University. She was one of the first graduates and a Fisk Jubilee singer.

At Fisk she met my grandfather, who was born a slave. He had belonged to the Oldham Plantation near Louisville. He was 12- or 14-years-old when the war broke out. He ran away so he could fight. He went to the border of Kentucky and Ohio and swam the creek that's the Ohio River at that point. He was too young, so they had him as a water boy, but then things got really bad and they let him fight. Then Mr. Lincoln comes forth and frees everybody in '63 and he goes off back home. And he needs a name and he thought, "Oldham was a pretty decent master, so I'll take his name, but I'm not going to spell it that darn way. I'm going to spell it *Olden*."

I was up in St. Louis playing for Bob McFerrin and his son Bobby. They both got honorary doctorates. There was a note in the program: "Mr. and Mrs. Oldham have donated a chair to the University of St. Louis." So at the reception afterwards, I met them. They were an interracial couple. She looked like Diana Ross and he was the clone of Carroll O'Connor: he looked just like Archie Bunker.

I went up to them and I said "Mr. Oldham, did you perhaps spring from the Oldham county plantation in Kentucky?"

He said, "Yes."

I said, "Shake hands with your cousin. My grandfather was a slave on your plantation."



Lee during her Oberlin years

WHEN KATHLEEN BATTLE and Jessye Norman were invited to do the spirituals broadcast, they recommended that I be consulted. I was brought before the head of the project, and they showed me a tentative program that the girls were going to do.

They had an orchestra. I said, "An orchestra, what are you doing with an orchestra? Do you have a chorus?"

They said, "Yes we have the Metropolitan 'Porgy' chorus, 70 voices."

"Seventy voices, that's *marvelous*. What are they going to sing?"

"Nothing, they're backing the girls."

"Seventy people to back a soloist for an hour and a half?" I got up. "I'll have nothing to do with this outfit. You mean to tell me you're going to put a spirituals program on, and you've got the greatest chorus of blacks in the country and you're not going to have them sing by themselves?"

"What would you have them to sing?"

"Only about a thousand arrangements jump to my head immediately. But I see you don't have Nathaniel Dett down here, and I want to tell you since the days of *Monteverdi* there has not been an a cappella chorus to compare with Dett's 'I'll never turn back no more.'"

They gave the chorus two songs of their own.

great lack," says Clemmons. It took three start-ups before the group took hold, partly because of the lack of interest among professional musicians, and partly because of lack of seed capital.

The seed capital was provided in 1987 by Clemmons's savings from his work as a tenor and his 15 years' playing Officer Clemmons on television's "Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood." Time has changed the attitude of other musicians.

"There were people who actually felt that I would be negatively judged if I started a group like this, that my solo career would suffer," says Clemmons. "They felt that the repertoire wasn't worthy and there would be no market for it. I am pleased to say they have been proven wrong. It has been a very liberating experience for me socially, musically, financially, and for my reputation."

The Harlem Spiritual Ensemble's success is attested to by their 1993-94 touring schedule, which shows them constantly busy, zooming from New York to Cleveland to Hawaii; from Italy to South Africa to Germany.

"I feel that I have been anointed to do this work," says Clemmons. "I don't say that lightly and I don't say that modestly. I can't imagine myself doing anything else. It uses so many of my talents: as an administrator, an arranger, a conductor, a singer. When I go home I'm tired, and I'm satisfied."

Solving Urgent Problems

The entrepreneurial spirit also has infused the work of Calvin Taylor, pianist and arranger. He and his wife, Yvonne, self-



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF C. TAYLOR

Taylor

publish and self-promote his live performances, arrangements, and recordings, which include many spirituals. He has two tapes called "Spirituals for Piano" and a 48-page music folio by the same title that contains concert arrangements used by music teachers and church musicians.

How does he create arrangements for solo piano from the songs of slavery? In an interesting twist on the typical method used in arranging, he considers words before melody.

"My first consideration is the message. I try to paint a picture in music without words of something that originally had words. You have to have a sense of the terrible conditions under which these songs were composed, the dual and sometimes triple messages they were trying to convey."

Taylor's sense of mission is rooted in his belief that "slavery in large part is still in existence today in America, although the emancipation came in 1865." Spirituals are needed, he says, because "much of the music the black community supports keeps them in slavery. What you hear in the gas stations and on the boom box is designed to keep their senses numbed and to keep them unaware of their potential in business and the real world." From the 1960s' song "Don't Know Much about History," which he calls a "litany of ignorance," to today's rap music, Taylor

Walter Anderson: Combining Social Work and Spirituals

Walter Anderson '37 became the first African American to chair a department of a not-historically-black college or university in 1946, when he accepted the chairmanship of Antioch College's music department. A pianist and organist, he has performed throughout the United States and Europe. He directed the National Endowment for the Arts's music program for a decade before becoming assistant to the chair of the NEA. But it was at one of his first jobs that Anderson saw how the power of spirituals could pull a community together. From 1942 until he joined Antioch, Anderson directed the music program at Karamu House, a Cleveland settlement house—founded by Russell '14 and Rowena Woodham '14 Jelliffe—that uses the arts to create social change.

Anderson's composition Lord, Lord, Lord, a set of variations on spirituals, has been performed by orchestras across the country. In 1981 he presented Pope John Paul II with a copy of Look Away, the collection of spirituals he edited and which Cooperative Recreation Services published in 1957. Anderson recalls that his gift delighted the pontiff, who declared, "I like spirituals. I like to sing them."

When Anderson found that he couldn't balance his increasingly demanding job responsibilities and his exacting five-hour-a-day organ-practice schedule, he gave up the schedule. But, since retiring in 1983, he has started playing again. The following story is from his recent interview with Joan Oliver Goldsmith. —CN

feels that "blacks in modern times have traditionally not supported the best they have to offer." Spirituals, which he describes as "urgent music created to solve urgent problems," are part of that best.

"The fact that the slaves could sing at all under the circumstances, the fact that they were able to use the music to lift them and their spirits, to lift themselves literally out of slavery, says a lot about the quality of the people who were brought over from Africa."

"Spirituals can allow us to express, to feel, to know, to connect with what was going on a century and a half ago," says Charlene Cooper. "That's not that long ago. If you have a 90-year-old relative, you're not that far from it."

So Cooper, along with other Oberlin alumni, has dedicated herself: "This music must be understood and preserved in life, not just in museums or in books."

The composers of this music demand the best of us. We can give them no less.

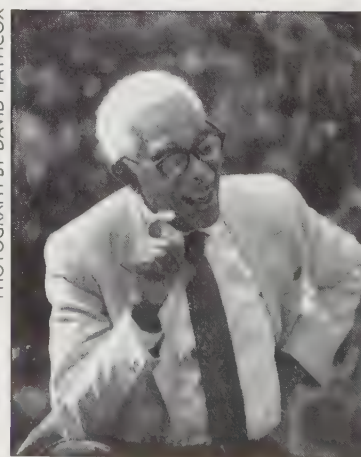
JOAN OLIVER GOLDSMITH is a free-lance writer and singer based in Minneapolis. She earns her bread and butter writing for corporations, primarily about health care and continuous quality improvement. She earns an occasional spoonful of jam through publication of her essays and articles about music. As an alto with the Minnesota Chorale, she performs with the Minnesota Orchestra and the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, singing requiem masses (from Mozart to Verdi), contemporary works, and the choral symphonies of Mahler and Beethoven. Her life is rich in experience, and she goes to bed tired.

IT WAS AT KARAMU HOUSE that I began to be aware of how the songs at the neighborhood level could bring a closer tie between the staff and the whole neighborhood. The first year I didn't do anything in the way of formal organization; I merely went around the neighborhood singing. I wasn't a singing major. But always in my childhood in Zainesville, Ohio, I had been active in accompanying groups—adult groups that sang spirituals in churches and community centers. Spirituals naturally entered my blood.

So I just went around the neighborhood singing. The neighborhood was not a secure place. There was a playground next door. . . People had been murdered there.

This was in the middle of the depression and a lot of people were out of work and they needed something to do. So I sang in the streets and the backyards and I became well known. In the second year, when I began to organize groups formally, there were so many people who wanted to work with me that we couldn't begin to take care of all of them.

PHOTOGRAPH BY DAVID HATHCOX



Anderson



Alumni News & Notes

Margaret Palmer Doane '30: champion of sacred dance; Gary Roma '87: chronicler of doorstops; ASOC visitors: conveyers of the arts; William Faber '68: ponderer of postmodern thoughts



Year by Year

1923 Joel H. Whitaker was unable to attend the 70th reunion last year, but keeps in touch with Oberlin through the *Observer* and periodic first-hand reports from currently enrolled grandchildren Joel F. Whitaker '96 (son of Sidney H. Whitaker '62) and Katherine C.S. Whitaker '97 (daughter of James W. Whitaker '60). Joel and his wife, Marion, are able to remain in their Granville, Ill., home of 61 years with the help of a team of caregivers.

1925 At the recent 59th Hosteling International-American Youth Hostels National Council Meeting in Cleveland, Syracuse, N.Y., resident **Frances T. Downing** received the 1993 Isabel and Monroe Smith Award, the highest honor awarded by the organization. The award recognizes Frances's long-time service to hosteling, which aims to help people gain a greater understanding of the world and its people. "A better name for these wonderful years with hosteling," Frances said on accepting the award, "would be not *service* but *fun*." During her visit to Ohio Frances stayed with her nephew George Andrews '54 in Oberlin. "It was soul-satisfying to revisit this choice locale that I loved so long ago," she says. Frances is among the more than 25 direct descendants of Delia Fenn Andrews, Class of 1841, who have graduated from Oberlin.

1929 Bob Kroc's reminiscences were included in the article "Remembrance: Excerpta Memorabilia" in a recent (Vol. 131, No. 4) issue of *Endocrinology*. Bob's reminiscences include, among other things, lecturing in Alfred Kinsey's first course on marriage and the family at Indiana U. in the early 1940s.

1930 The family of **Hélène Lucile Monod** has established a scholarship fund in her memory, the Oberlin Coll. Dept. of Romance Languages recently announced. Hélène—the late wife of **Frederic Cassidy**, emeritus professor of English language and literature at U. Wisconsin—was emeritus professor of French at Wisconsin. She died in 1980. Having earned her A.M. degree in French at the College, she brought her Oberlin experience to bear in overseeing the French House on the Madison campus. The French government awarded her the Ordre des Palmes Académiques and the Ordre du Mérite for her contributions to the American understanding of France and French history. ▼ **Willard Van Quine** '55hon, Pearce Professor of Philosophy Emeritus at Harvard (which awarded him an honorary degree in 1979), has received the first Shrock Prize in Philosophy from the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. The award was conferred upon him recently by the king of Sweden.

1932 **Lillian Horton Robinson** is the pianist for the Windsor Park Choir, a 40-member choir at the Windsor Park Manor retirement community in Carol Stream, Ill. Lillian majored in organ at Oberlin and has played piano since she was 5.

1934 In November the Holdenville (Okla.) Business Women's Club (HBW) named **Galela Walkingstick** 1993 HBW Woman of the Year. A spokesperson for the club cited Galela's humanitarianism as reason for the honor. Now retired, Galela was one of the first five professionally trained social workers of the Bureau of

Indian Affairs. She also worked at the Okla. Dept. of Institutions and Rehabilitative Services and continues to do volunteer work, much of it with her church. In 1989 she established the Galela L. Walkingstick Scholarship Award for Minority Students at Oberlin. ▼ U. Dayton awarded *Dayton Daily News* columnist **Roz Young** an honorary doctoral degree at its spring commencement exercises. According to Mary McCarty's profile of Roz run in the May 7 issue of the *Dayton Daily News*, the citation praises her instinct for common humanity, reading in part: "In her writing, whether it be about an industrial giant or a small (relatively speaking), brown-and-orange tabby, Roz Young has invested in us, her readers." In the profile Roz talks about receiving love letters every day for 10 years from one of her English professors, whom she does not name. Roz mentioned Oberlin in her *Daily News* article of Jan. 28, saying "In June my college class will celebrate its 60th reunion. In those 60 years I have never had a communication from the college without a plea for money." She wrote that she told the latest Oberlin telephone solicitor, "No more money for Oberlin." See William Mezger's Class of 1938 class note for more of the story.

1935 **Marjorie Witt Johnson**, founder and first director of Cleveland's Karamu Dancers, was one of four honored guests at a February benefit tea for Cleveland's Repertory Project dance company. The event was held at the Alcazar Hotel ballroom in Cleveland. (See the feature story "Deep River" in this issue for more about Marjorie's activities.) ▼ **Robert H. Kernohan** has won a local Jefferson Award for Meritorious Public Service, which included a medal and luncheon hosted by the Knoxville television station. Given annually by the American Institute for Public Service, the awards were established in 1973 by Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, Senator Robert Taft, Jr., and Samuel S. Beard. Bob has recorded for the blind for many years—having started the 340-volunteer unit of Recording for the Blind in Oak Ridge with a dozen people in 1952—

1935 CONTINUED

and the Oak Ridge Recording for the Blind nominated him for the award. A retired research associate in solid-state physics at Oak Ridge National Laboratories, Bob visits high schools in his area of East Tennessee to give talks aimed at recruiting students to careers in the sciences. He is also a docent at the Museum of Science and Energy in Oak Ridge. ▼ In September **Phil Shuman** and his wife, Tricia, moved to Knollwood, an army-retirement community in Washington, D.C. Phil recently sold the house he owned for 30 years on Lake George in New York. He is glad, he says, to give up the snow, ice, and cold of the north country as well as the chores and responsibilities of home ownership. He finds Knollwood filled with friendly and caring senior citizens. "We are happy even though it has been quite an adjust-

ment moving into a three-room apartment from a fairly large house," says Phil.

1937 **John W. Copeland** has been selected for a third two-year term as member of the 35-person board of the Michigan State Blue Cross Corp., the largest health-care insurer in Michigan. John, a Detroit, also serves on three of the organization's standing committees and as a liaison to the Blue Cross Blue Shield Senior Advisory Council. He has also chaired the ad hoc nominating committee that nominates the chair and vice-chair of the board. ▼ Dallas resident **Laurence Perrine**, professor emeritus of English at Southern Methodist U., has published his second book of



Copeland

limericks, *Sense and Nonsense: Original Limericks*, with Orchises Press. His *Sound and Sense: An Introduction to Poetry* (Harcourt Brace College, publishers) is in its eighth edition and has sold more than four million copies. Larry recently told a *Dallas Morning News* columnist that he wrote his first limerick "probably at the age of 10 or 12." In his poetry textbook he calls limericks a "subliterary form." Fellow Dallas resident Joanne H. Pratt '48 submitted the *Morning News* clipping.

1938 Some feistiness between Dayton alumni: The *Dayton Daily News* recently published an op-ed piece by **William Mezger** in which he defended Oberlin Coll. against the criticism *Daily News* columnist Roz Young '34 leveled at Oberlin in her January 1 column ("In . . . 60 years I have never had a communication from the college with-

High Priestess Is Oberlin's Own Margaret Palmer Taylor Doane

By Nancy Moore Roth '58

Two and a half years ago I tore open an envelope postmarked Fresno, CA and unfolded a letter written in an energetic hand:

Jan. 13, 1992

Dear Nancy,

I was delighted to read about you in the article by Mary Louise VanDyke on *Oberlin Hymn Makers* [fall 1991 alumni magazine]. I am sending you a copy of my most recent book and would love to receive a copy of *We Sing of God* . . . I'm always trying to get religious workers to use dance and the dancers to learn more about the message of Christ to be communicated. And here you are, Nancy—with both—what gifts to share!

Love to you—

Margaret Taylor Doane

Everything I have since learned about Margaret Taylor Doane '30 confirms the initial impression I formed upon opening that letter.

I had received one of the notes for which the octogenarian high priestess of sacred dance in America—although she would never give herself such a title—is famous. Peg Palmer, as she was called by her classmates, is well known for shunning the spotlight and shining it, instead, on others.

"She takes delight in other people's accomplishments," her disciple Doug Adams, professor of Christianity and the arts at the Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, told me recently. "She blends art and ethics. She exemplifies the Oberlin spirit, and Oberlin can be proud."

Margaret admits that her student years in Oberlin influenced her profoundly. During the late 1920s and early 1930s—overlapping with Margaret's college years—the pioneers of Modern Dance were breaking new ground, throwing off the constraints of classical ballet to explore movement that could express deeper emo-

tional, spiritual, and social overtones. In Margaret's sophomore and junior years messengers from that brave new world came to Cleveland, where Margaret was among the students enthralled by performances of an Isadora Duncan troupe and of the great Ted Shawn and Ruth St. Denis. In her senior year, encouraged by a teacher from the Department of Physical Education (which then encompassed a dance program), Margaret launched out with her own choreography, an "Ave Maria," which she considers her first religious dance.

In spring 1931 Margaret went to Berlin to study with Mary Wigman. There she was exposed to strong, intense choreography dealing with social-justice concerns.

Sixty-three years later, Margaret continues to make the connections between her chosen art and social and ethical problems: "Dance is not just floating around in an ethereal haze," she says. "It concerns facing the agonies of life. Sacred dancers have a special trust now to carry on their devotional emphasis and also to contribute dances of meaningful social-spiritual content."

When she returned to the United States from Germany, Margaret took graduate studies at the University of Chicago and danced there as a member of the chapel's dance group. Margaret's first nonstudent sacred-dance work came about soon after she married her first husband in 1931. A Congregational minister, he encouraged her "rhythmic choirs" of dancers at Christmas and Easter. But when a seminarian trained by choreographer Doris Humphrey volunteered a dance interpretation of the Biblical Prodigal Son story, the church's board of deacons cautioned Margaret: "You can do anything you like . . . as long as you don't call it *dance*."

When the couple moved from Chicago to Hanover, New Hampshire, Margaret made the March 8, 1948, issue of *Life* by involving Dartmouth students (then all male) in dance dramas. In Hanover she also began the research on religion and dance that was to bear fruit as the first of her many books on sacred dance, *The Art of*

out a plea for money"). Bill called Roz's memory "selective" and said, among other things, that unless Roz has asked to be taken off the mailing list, she also receives the alumni magazine and other reports from the College.

1940 **O. Willard Bidwell** and his wife, Rose, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary March 18 with their children and grandchildren, who came home for the occasion. Willard is professor emeritus at Kansas State U. The couple lives in Manhattan, Kans. ▼ Jack "Johnny" '42 and **Christine Habegger Purves** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary "all last year," says Christine, by "visiting the various places and people who have contributed to the richness of these years." The Oberlin part of their celebration was with **Max** and **Jane Burt Ervin** at Glacier Park in Montana—"five

days reminiscing, viewing the marvels of that park, and singing the old songs together." The Purveses live in Bluffton, Ohio.

1941 **R. Tom Baldwin, Jr.**, a retired U.S. Air Force lieutenant colonel, has finished a task he started in 1937: He graduated Dec. 18 from Florida State U. with a B.A. degree in history and humanities. He says he was in the "good company" of his wife, Dottie, who also graduated then, with a B.S. degree in social science. "At 75," he says, "I find that learning never ends." ▼ The Nov. 13 Albany *Times-Union* ran a long feature story about **Dick Hauser** and his new occupation. Dick, retired from 33 years as a biology professor at



Baldwin

U. Albany, is a freelance lecturer on cruise ships. When interviewed for the paper, he had just completed a 52-day cruise around South America, his third circumnavigation of that continent. In the last seven years Dick, often accompanied by his wife, has lectured on 18 trips, including voyages to Antarctica, treks up the Amazon, and cruises through the Caribbean and along the Baltic coast. ▼ On May 22 Christ Church, Bronxville, N.Y., dedicated a stained-glass window to honor **Robert G. Owen**, organist and choir-master emeritus of the parish. The window is inspired by the work of French composer and organist Olivier Messiaen, and is one of three windows designed and executed by Ellen Miret-Jayson for the May dedication. (Another of the windows commemorates the work of wrought-iron craftsperson Samuel Yellin, whose work is represented in the Allen Memorial Art Museum

Rhythmic Choir: Worship through Symbolic Movement. Among her other publications still in print are: *A Time to Dance: Symbolic Movement in Worship*; *Look Up and Live*; *Dramatic Dance with Children*; *Creative Movement*; *Considerations for Starting a Sacred Dance Choir*; and *Hymns in Action for Everyone: People 9 to 90 Dancing Together*.

Displaying the homing instinct that vitalizes many Oberlin graduates, Margaret visited Oberlin in the late '50s to teach three-week summer courses in sacred dance for the Graduate School of Theology. She returned to Oberlin to dance for a GST chapel service in 1966, and gave two dance workshops in 1967 for a Methodist musicians' conference held in Oberlin. Margaret made her home in Oberlin twice after graduation: from 1968 to 1969, and again for a few years beginning in 1975, after the death of her third husband.



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF MARGARET PALMER TAYLOR DOANE

Margaret Palmer Doane was the honored guest at the 1993 Sacred Dance Festival. A Phi Beta Kappa English major, she helped create the Sacred Dance Guild in 1958.

a stairwell. Afterwards Margaret's young dance troupe was not only compliant but enthusiastic. "Margaret integrated *all* the arts *all* the time," remembers VanDyke.

In the year of her 50th Oberlin College reunion, Margaret married her old Oberlin sweetheart, Clarmont "Monty" Doane '26, a former Shansi representative and retired orthopedic surgeon.

In the late 1970s Margaret worked at First Church with musician Mary Louise Enigson VanDyke '47, who recalls Margaret's creative response to the snickers of some reluctant boys asked to dance "Deck the Halls" with wreaths: She marched the children across the street to Allen Art Museum, where a reproduction of a Donatello work depicting children dancing with wreaths hung in a

Until his death in April [see "Losses in the Oberlin Family"—Ed.] the couple lived together in California, where the 85-year-old Margaret's work continues unabated, a living example of her belief, "From childhood to old age—all can dance!"

From 1967 to 1986—when she was between the ages of 59 and 78—Margaret kept a list of her activities: 412 programs, 904 workshops, 40 TV programs and interviews, 34 articles, 11 books, and participation in 14 film strips and movies.

Others have chronicled her achievements in various ways. In 1966-67 Margaret was listed in *Who's Who of American Women*. Two videotapes about her work, *Always Margaret* and *Oh, Margaret!* have been produced by the Rev. C. Bunny Oliver, who is also her future biographer. She is a former elected national president of the Sacred Dance Guild, an organization she helped create in 1958. In 1976, in recognition of the inspiration she has given to countless dancers and church professionals, the Pacific School of Religion established the Margaret Taylor Foundation for Dance on its campus in Berkeley.

Last summer Margaret was the honored guest at the 1993 Sacred Dance Festival, held at the Pacific School of Religion. At the celebratory banquet she urged her younger colleagues: "Don't forget the children: they need to be involved in dance, in religious education, and in worship. Use the media of video and TV to communicate the healing strength we have to offer."

With these words Margaret Palmer Taylor Doane revealed that she has been, all along, not merely a dancer and a pioneer, but an enabler and an educator, just as I had guessed when I tore open that intriguing and inspiring letter two years ago. The Oberlin spirit, indeed!

NANCY ROTH is an Episcopal priest, musician, dancer, author, and Oberlin resident. Her books include *We Sing of God*; *Praying: a Book for Children*; *A New Christian Yoga*; *The Breath of God*; and *Organic Prayer*. She gives creative-movement classes for young children and Innerdance classes for adults at the Oberlin College Recreation Center, as well as workshops and retreats throughout the United States and England. Her intent, like Margaret Taylor Doane's, is to guide others toward an understanding of how the individual's experience of the unity of body and spirit can bear fruit in responsible and meaningful life in the world community.

1941 CONTINUED

and other Oberlin campus buildings as well as at Bronxville's Christ Church.) Robert retired in 1988 after 45 years with Christ Church. A student of Nadia Boulanger and Marcel Dupre, he has recorded for RCA Victor and Westminster.

1943 Retired orthodontist **Bert Ballin** has been named the Stamford, Conn., *Advocate's* 1993 Community Leader of the Year. The Stamford resident recently told an *Advocate* staff writer that his community service "all started at Oberlin," where community service "was a big deal." Organizations to which he has devoted his service include the Stamford Dental Soc., the Connecticut Soc. of Dentistry for Children, the American Bd. of Orthodontics, the Dental Advisory Committee of the Stanford Bd. of Education, and Stamford's Community Mental Health Center, United Way, New Neighborhoods Inc., Senior Services, and Health Commission. He has also worked with the North Stamford Democratic Club, the Democratic City Committee, and with Stamford's Horizons Student Enrichment Program, the organization that nominated him for the award. Bert led his Oberlin class reunion in 1993. **Ralph Neibart** shared the *Advocate* clipping with the *OAM*. ▼ On March 15 the American Chemical Soc. (ACS) gave **Ralph Hirschmann** '69hon the Alfred Burger Award in Medicinal Chemistry at the annual ACS meeting. Ralph, a research professor of chemistry at U. Pennsylvania, won the award for his profound impact on chemical research in the biomedical sciences and on academic and industrial chemistry. According to the Oct. 18 *Chemical and Engineering News*, one of his most notable achievements was the first synthesis, with a colleague in 1969, of an enzyme (ribonuclease). Ralph began his work at Penn following retirement in 1987 after 37 years with Merck Research Laboratories.

1944 In 1993 Pergamon Press published *Burning Memory: Times of Testing and Reckoning*, edited by **Alice Lyons Eckardt**. The book approaches the Holocaust from two perspectives: that of people who lived through the experience and survived the Nazis' murders of European Jews and that of those who did not experience the events but who recognize a need to remember and to teach others to remember the events. ▼ Last September **N. Sibley Rogers Garver** and her husband, Reed, fulfilled a long-time wish: to hike coast-to-coast across England. They hiked on their own and had the support of an outfit that arranged for their nights' lodgings, carried their luggage, and supplied copious maps. Beginning at St. Bees Head, on the Irish Sea, they walked through the Lake District, Yorkshire Dales, and North York Moors National Park, ending at Robin Hood's Bay on the North Sea—190 miles in 13 days. "We thoroughly enjoyed it," says Sibley, "but only because we spent the summer preparing."

1945 Greenways Press recently published **Patricia Eells Kariel's** *New Directions: Stepping out of Street Life*, a case study based on the work of The Back Door, an agency in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, that, according to the author, "helps youth get off the street and into a productive life style." In relating the experiences of 19 street youths, the book describes youth crime, the use and misuse of drugs and alcohol by youth, and teenage pregnancy and prostitution. The book also presents the author's analysis and recommendations for the problems discussed.

1946 In October **Nancy Williams Cook** and her husband, Jack, moved to a retirement community in Oregon, where they have what Nancy calls "a charming house on the edge of a small college town." Nancy's classmate cousin, **Miriam Daniels Ludwig**, lives nearby, "45 miles down a beautiful country road." Nancy and Jack say they look forward to exploring the Pacific Northwest. ▼ The American Geological Inst. presented its most prestigious medal, according to the January issue of *Geotimes*, to **Peter T. Flawn** in October. Peter received the Ian Campbell Medal at the Geological Soc. of America's annual meeting. The former president of U. Texas—San Antonio, of U. Texas—Austin, and of several geological organizations, Peter was selected for the medal because of his contributions to geology as a researcher, educational leader, administrator, and public servant.

1949 **Milton Groesbeck** has had several adventures with the U.S. Navy in his retirement. His son and grandson, both in the navy, recently recruited him as an instructor in the Program for Afloat College Education. In 1991 he was "pierside" on the USS *Savannah* at the Norfolk Naval Station. In 1992 he went with a Caribbean Counter Narcotics operation, and in 1992 and 1993—with the Marines—he went to the Adriatic Sea near former Yugoslavia. His adventures included transferring by boson's chair from the USS *Milwaukee* to the USS *Elmer Montgomery* while the *Montgomery* was under way; crewing in a motor whale boat racing through eight-foot waves; being tail hooked from 110 to 0 mph onto the aircraft carrier USS *John F. Kennedy*; lowering by wire from a helicopter to the USS *Wainwright* while it was under way; and enduring three days in an Atlantic Ocean storm—"routine happenings for the surface navy," he says. He's now home with his dog and his canoes on the Upper Delaware River in Hortonville, N.Y.

1950 *Winter Pilgrim*, a broadside of **Morgan Gibson's** poems, was recently published by Word Press (Japan) and Light and Dust Books (U.S.) Morgan teaches at Japan Women's U. in Tokyo. Home address: 6-2-5-404, Isobe, Mihama-ku, Chiba-shi, Chiba-ken 261, Japan. ▼ **Sylvia Stansbury Kerckhoff** has become the first woman mayor of

Durham, N.C. A 12-year member of Durham's City Council, Sylvia recently told a reporter for the *Raleigh News & Observer*, "I've always felt that I have lasted in politics for a long time because I've voted by conscience and remained relatively independent even though everyone says it's impossible." According to the newspaper, Sylvia is known for favoring gun control and being against uncontrolled economic development. ▼ **Robert Love** retired in August after 29 years on the Slippery Rock U. faculty. A small school in 1964, Slippery Rock became a 7500-student university in the 1990s. Robert was Faculty Forum president the year before he retired and earlier had chaired the Tenure Committee. He was named emeritus professor in December. ▼ **John D. Mitchell** is retiring this spring after 21 years as a professor of journalism at the Syracuse U. S.I. Newhouse Sch. of Public Communications; he chaired the newspaper department his first 10 years there. Earlier, he spent 15 years at U. Colorado and two at Kansas State, and for a year was a Fulbright lecturer at Thammasat U. in Bangkok. He has worked at newspapers in Illinois, Ohio, Kansas, Colorado, and New York. He still lives at 101 Sun Harbor Dr., Liverpool, NY 13088. ▼ **John E. Williams** has established two archives at the DeTamble Library of St. Andrews Presbyterian Coll., where he is emeritus professor of music. One is Organ Music by Contemporary Scottish Composers. In constant update, the archive currently covers the years 1950 to 1976. The other is a "Stille Nacht" archive, which includes organ and choral music that incorporates "Stille Nacht," related books in English, relevant newspaper and magazine articles published since 1950, and publications of the "Stille Nacht" Gesellschaft of Oberndorf, Austria. The gesellschaft, of which John is a member, is publishing a short article by him this year. John lives in Laurinburg, N.C.

1951 Living in Montreal ("an exciting place to be," she says), **Mary I. Colt** is promoting the work of her friend, artist Janine Leroux Guillaume. She is also continuing her own career, which includes creating watercolors, prints, and poems, and finds travel essential for furthering her education and enriching her imagination. With friends and all family but her son, Oliver, elsewhere, she says she has good reason to move about. "Life is richer and more meaningful," Mary says, "since I've become a Catholic and an artist, and have obtained dual citizenship." ▼ **John Mack** was the subject of a major story in the *New York Times* March 20. John, who won a Pulitzer Prize in 1977 for his psychoanalytic biography *A Prince of Our*



Kerckhoff



Colt

Disorder: The Life of T. E. Lawrence, is a psychiatrist at Harvard whose most recent interest is the abduction of humans by aliens. His *Abduction: Human Encounters with Aliens* was published by Charles Scribner's Sons in April. Recently John was also written up in *Time* and *Psychology Today*, among other publications, and he has appeared on the "Oprah Winfrey Show" and "48 Hours" television programs discussing alien abduction.

1952 Les Blodgett has been appointed general counsel of Ampex Corp., Redwood City, Calif. Ampex (NASDAQ:AMPX) is a worldwide producer of high-performance scanning recording systems and magnetic tape media for data storage, government, and television markets. Les is married to Linda Jackson Blodgett '53. ▼ The October/November issue of *Elle Decor* featured architect Tom Bosworth's house in Seattle. "His work . . . [possesses] a clear but undogmatic symmetry, a feeling of comforting solidity and affection for natural light, attributes that have also found their way into Bosworth's own Seattle house," says writer Doug Gantenbein in a six-page article, "Seattle Sparkle." Gantenbein writes that Tom's grandfather (the late Edward Increase Bosworth, who earned degrees at Oberlin in 1886, 1893, and 1901, and after whom Bosworth Hall was named) taught classics at Oberlin. Gantenbein was close: Edward Increase Bosworth taught Latin and mathematics in Oberlin's Preparatory Dept. for two years before joining the theology faculty in 1887; Tom's grandfather was the first dean of the Graduate Sch. of Theology and taught there 42 years. Tom is on the faculty of the U. Washington Sch. of Architecture. ▼ According to the Dec. 18 edition of the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, Nancy Wise Hess, director of the Temple U. Center for Gifted Youth, is planning to form a youth orchestra of the Americas, using as its nucleus the Youth Chamber Orchestra of Temple's Music Preparatory Division. ▼ Since moving to Augusta, Ga., from Hollywood, Fla., in June 1992, physician Alan (Roginsky) Roberts has covered many miles jogging. During one of his runs he discovered an Oberlin Rd. "Every time I pass [the street sign]," Alan says, "I get a warm nostalgic feeling." ▼ After retiring from teaching, Hans Graetzer and his wife, Miriam, moved to Colorado, 60 miles northwest of Denver and five miles from the entrance to Rocky Mountain National Park. The couple recently remodeled their home into a bed-and-breakfast, called The Quilt House. Hans has coauthored *The Atomic Bomb*, an annotated bibliography for readers without a science background, recently published by Scarecrow Press. The couple's address: P.O. Box 339, Estes Park, CO 80517.



Roberts

1953 Budd Hopkins, known by some as the father of the UFO abduction movement, was mentioned in the March 20 *New York Times* article "John Mack," a profile of psychiatrist John Mack '51 that focuses on John's involvement with psychiatric patients who report having been abducted by aliens. Budd is a self-employed painter, sculptor, and author in New York City.

1954 Composers Dolores White and Leslie Adams '55 were represented in A Celebration of Music by African-American Composers, a concert presented at Cleveland State U. March 18 by the Robert Page/Cleveland Singers. The next day composers whose works were played in the concert participated in a related symposium. Dolores is a music educator and composer at Cuyahoga Community Coll.

1955 Cleveland composer Leslie Adams's "Christmas Lullaby" is featured on the Cleveland Orch.'s CD, *The Sounds of Christmas*. His "Miranda Arias from Blake" were performed by soprano Martina Arroyo Nov. 12 at the opening of the Danny and Sylvia Kaye Playhouse at Hunter Coll. and Nov. 20 in recital by Arroyo at Lehman U. Leslie was among those featured in A Celebration of Music by African-American Composers, a concert presented at Cleveland State U. March 18. Other Oberlin composers whose music was part of the concert were Dolores White '54 and the late Nathaniel Dett '08. On March 19 Leslie chaired a session—The Creative Spirit: Is There a Difference in Black Music and White Music?—in a related symposium on the Cleveland State campus. ▼ American Beach, Fla., resident MaVynnee (formerly Marvynne) Betsch performed a dance to Max Roach's "Rumble through the Jungle" Oct. 2 at the annual African Banquet of the Elm Street Recreational Center in Fernandina Beach, Fla. Two area newspapers, including Jacksonville's *Florida Times-Union*, carried stories announcing her upcoming dance. The dance, in celebration of MaVynnee's 25th anniversary without colon cancer, was intended, in part, to provoke Nassau County (Fla.) residents' interest in black history. ▼ John F. Dill, president and CEO of Mosby-Year Book, Inc.—a division of the Times Mirror Co. that publishes 4000 book titles and more than 50 journals in the health sciences—has been named president of the Chancellor's Council of the U. Missouri-St. Louis for 1994. The council is a fundraising organization of the university. John, who recently helped develop the council's Global Citizen Award, was the keynote speaker at Missouri's May 1993 commencement ceremony. He was recently elected an honorary member of Sigma Theta Tau International, the international honor society of nursing. ▼ Joe



Dill

Hickerson's frequent lectures include "The History of Folksong Collecting and Archiving in the U.S.," "The Folksong Revival," "Folksongs of Washington, D.C.," "Women Folksong Collectors," and "African American Folk Music," the last two of which often feature a segment on Zora Neale Hurston. Joe is head of the Archive of Folk culture at the Library of Congress. Since 1953 he has performed over a thousand times at concerts, festivals, coffeehouses, folk clubs and societies, colleges and universities, community groups, and radio programs (including "A Prairie Home Companion") in the U.S. and Canada. (See the feature story "Deep River" in this issue for more about Joe's activities.)

Pride in People Pride in Place



With an Eye to the Future

Oberlin College
Development Office
208 Bosworth Hall
Oberlin, Ohio 44074
216/775-8550

Submit Your Nomination for the 1995 Alumni Association Awards

Award Guidelines

The Alumni Medal is awarded for direct **service to Oberlin College**. Candidates may not be current members of the Executive Board of the Alumni Council, the Alumni Association office staff, or anyone in the active employ of the College. In considering those who have been employed by the College, attention is given to service above and beyond the candidate's ordinary professional duties.

A Certificate of Appreciation recognizes outstanding or significant **performance in Alumni Association programs**. Current Executive Board members and Alumni Association office staff are not eligible.

Winners are chosen by the Alumni Association Awards Committee during the September Alumni Council weekend. Recipients' names are kept confidential until Commencement Weekend when the awards are presented during the Alumni Luncheon.

To Submit a Nomination

Include the nominee's name and class year, and indicate whether you wish the nominee to be considered for the Alumni Medal or the Certificate of Appreciation or both. Include your own name and class year as nominator.

Note: Because the Committee depends substantially on the information provided in alumni nominations, please give as much detail as you can about your nominee's background, Oberlin-related achievements, and involvement in alumni/college activities and explain how the information fits the guidelines for each award.

Please send the information to:

*Oberlin College Alumni Association, Margaret Sahs Erikson '62,
Director of On-Campus Activities, Bosworth Hall 105, 50 W. Lorain
St., Oberlin, OH 44074-1089; Fax 216/775-8936.*

Previous Award Winners

Alumni Medal Winners

1984-1994:

1984 Margaret H. Leonard '37; **1985** Paul B. Arnold '40; **1986** Robert W. Tufts '36; **1987** Hal D. Payne; **1988** Anita and Joseph R. Reichard; **1989** Ellsworth C. Carlson '39; **1990** J. Clayton Miller '30; **1991** George R. Bent II '52, Thomas L. Boardman '39 (posthumous); **1992** John D. Elder '53; **1993** Ellen Hulda Johnson '33 (posthumous), George H. Langelier; **1994** David W. Hoard '81, Elizabeth Langvand Spelman '36

Certificate of Appreciation Winners 1984-1994:

1984 Ruth M. Oltman '34, Anne M. Wickham '69; **1985** William G. Adams '32, Jeffrey M. Kilmer '63, David B. Mayer '48, Philip F. Tear '43; **1986** Karl F. Heiser '26, Robert C. Plows '69, Katharine von Wenck; **1987** Carl M. Bacon '25, Paul B. Blanshard '41, Leroy E. and Lois Goodenough Peterson '38/'37; **1988** Jean Forsythe Dye '38, Jane Edwards Harley '38, Sumner C. Hayward '38; **1989** Theodore O. Gest '68, Carroll K. and Conna Bell Shaw '28/'28; **1990** Lillie M. Johnson Edwards '75, James W. Truitt '47; **1991** Frederic S. Cohen '57, John W. Copeland '37, Carl R. Gerber '58, William H. Warren '48; **1992** Dwan Vanderpool Robinson '83, Eleanor Derby Saunders '50, Don P. and Mary Louise Enigson VanDyke '47/'47; **1993** Andrew G. Cemelli '85, Roberta Scheff Maneker '57; **1994** James T. and Jeanne Hibbard Stephens '33.

The Awards Committee

Linda Barron Litwin '64,
Chairperson

Fred Cohen '57
Scott Fehlan '88
Rebekah Levin '79
Kristin Peterson '72
Betsy Mook Reed '39
Robin Crapsey Romero '65
Katy Sears '83
Eugene Smith '50
Paul Treuhaft '64

1955 CONTINUED

▼ **Ron Kallen** still lives in Highland Park, Ill., next to the Ravinia Festival grounds and the summer performances of the Chicago Symphony. He continues as director of Pediatric Nephrology at Lutheran General Children's Hosp., where he has been since 1989, and is a member of the national board of directors of the Autism Soc. of America and chair of its Medical Committee, which tracks current neuroscience research. "I am still hooked on long-distance, shorthanded (solo or double-handed) sailboat racing on Lake Michigan," he says. His wife, Marianne, is writing music for a theater production about AIDS. Ron recently heard from **Mike Siegel** (after 30-odd years) after Mike had read Ron's letter to the editor of *The New Yorker* about autism.

▼ **Bill and Elena Rasch Speidel** have been in Chengdu, China, since spring 1993. Bill is country director for Peace Corps China, which is "just getting started," Elena says. While their own children and one grandchild are far away, they



Bill Speidel



Elena Speidel

have been parenting 18 "terrific" Peace Corps volunteers, ages 22 to 68, she says. Much of the surroundings and job remind the couple of their time in Taiwan with the Oberlin Shansi Memorial Assoc. They are in contact with alumni of the Ming Hsien Sch. who stud-

ied near Chengdu under Oberlin Shansi reps during World War II. The Speidels welcome friends to sample "real Sichuan cooking (spicy!)" and see this amazing society in transition," says Elena. Address until mid-1995: c/o U.S.-China Friendship Volunteers, Peace Corps Office, Sichuan Normal U., Chengdu, Sichuan 61006668, China. Fax and telephone: 86-28-445-1002. ▼ In June 1993 **Barbara Weller Wonderly** retired and joined husband Donald '50 in Ponte Vedra, Fla. The couple remarried in March 1991. Barbara says they would "love to see anyone traveling I-95 to Florida—we're east of Jacksonville." Address: 2166 Settlers Row N., Ponte Vedra, FL 32083. Telephone: (904) 273-1100.

1957 In honor of **Johnnetta Betsch Cole** Anita Hill is donating some of the royalties from her two forthcoming nonfiction books to Spelman Coll. The contribution is prompted by Johnnetta's having stood by Hill during the confirmation hearings of Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, according to a Jan. 12 item in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*. Johnnetta is president of Spelman.

1958 Harpsichordist and pianist **Nancy Caballero Garniez** played in concert with the Alaria Chamber Ensemble in Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall Feb. 18. The ensemble has been together 10 years. ▼ Harpsichordist and pianist **William Heiles** had an article, "Ton Koopman Explains Harpsichord Subtleties," published in the Dec. 1993 issue of *Clavier*. William is professor of

music and heads the piano division at U. Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. ▼ The *Boston Globe* of Jan. 26 ran a profile of **David Shannon**, "Rev. Shannon's Bully Pulpit." In 1991 David became the first black president of Andover Newton Theological Sch. In Boston he recently formed an activist think tank, the Andover Group, whose composition is mainly black ministers. The group, which critiques the local black ministry, aims to "teach the urban community about empowerment" and to "stem the tide of violence," according to the article. "The times are ripe," wrote the *Globe* reporter, "for a road-weary scholar, an Old Testament professor, a holistic minister with Southern roots who might dare shake up the scene. And, as Shannon himself puts it, the time is certainly right to bring Andover Newton 'down off the hill.'" ▼ In February **Fred Steen** received an award for his contributions to Lorain County (Ohio). The award was given by the EST Bank at a Celebration of the Community Program in honor of Black History Month. Fred was recognized for building bridges between people. He is pastor of Mount Zion Baptist Church in Oberlin. ▼ On October 3, 1993, the Portuguese National Radio broadcast a recording of a concert **Haskell Thomson** played last June at the Cathedral of Lisbon. The broadcast was repeated March 4.

1960 Caldwell, N.J., resident **Annelise Rasmussen De Coorsin** was invited to attend the International Art Symposium in Dzintari, Latvia, in October. Her tapestries, along with those of 20 other textile artists, were exhibited at the Museum

Third African-American Alumni Reunion Draws 80 to Campus

By Jackie Bradley '76 and Lawrence Eric Murphy '69

From April 8 to 10 over 80 African-American alumni with their spouses, children, and friends returned to Oberlin for the third African-American alumni reunion.

The weekend included talks by Yakubu Saaka, professor of African-American studies; Dwight Hollins, acting director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs; Jonathan Williams, associate director of admissions and coordinator for multicultural recruitment; and Lester Barclay '81, an attorney with Mansker & Barclay. The theme of the presentations was African Americans at Oberlin in the 1990s.

President S. Frederick Starr gave welcoming remarks to alumni during the Sat-

urday luncheon. Three students, Angela C. Davis '94, Tijuana Glover '94, and Myron Ruffin '94, described their experiences as African Americans on the Oberlin campus.

African-American alumni led simultaneous discussion groups on the topics of student life (Sammie Davis-Dyson '90 and Lisa Fields '93), recruitment and admissions (Ruth Spencer '72), the African-American Alumni/ae Committee (Jackie Bradley '76), African-American studies (Lillie Johnson Edwards '75 and Booker Peek '66, associate professor of African-American studies), and fundraising (Lester Barclay '81). The small groups reported their discussions to the reunioning

alumni at the Sunday morning brunch.

The weekend included a poetry reading by Kate (called Donna when she was an OC student) Rushin '73; a performance by Oberlin's Jazz Ensemble directed by Wendell Logan, professor of African-American music; and an alumni-student recital. Special awards were presented to Frances Walker-Slocum '45, emerita professor of pianoforte, and Albert McQueen '52, professor of sociology, for their support of African Americans at Oberlin College.

JACKIE BRADLEY and LAWRENCE ERIC MURPHY cochair the African-American Alumni/ae Committee.

1960 CONTINUED

of Applied Arts in Riga. "It was a wonderful experience," says Annelise. ▼ **Deborah Hayes**, associate professor of musicology at U. Colorado, has written a new book, *Peter Sculthorpe: A Bio-Bibliography*, published in October by Greenwood Publishing Group. Sculthorpe is Australia's most prominent composer. An important international composer, he does not fit ready-made categories of composer or teacher, says the publisher. His work includes orchestral and chamber music, opera and other theater music, songs and choral music, and music for documentary and commercial films, radio, and television. ▼ **Judd L. Kessler**, a partner in the

Pride in People Pride in Place



With an Eye to the Future

Oberlin College
Development Office
208 Bosworth Hall
Oberlin, Ohio 44074
216/775-8550

Washington, D.C., office of Wright Morris & Arthur, based in Columbus, Ohio, has been named manager of the firm's International Business Practice Group. He and his wife, Carol Farris ("a Pomona grad," says Judd), are delighted with the company of 3-1/2-year-old son Sam. Neither has had a child previously. ▼ In October **Robert L. Linder** was commissioned as pastor-developer of Gloria de Cristo Lutheran Church, in the foothills in Yuma, Ariz. Robert was previously first pastor at Holy Spirit Lutheran Church in Las Vegas and, earlier, at Tanguer Verde Lutheran Church in Tucson. He has been a pastor for 33 years. ▼ Church organist **Patricia Williamson Masterson** is teaching K-6 music ("again," she says), including fourth, fifth, and sixth-grade choirs. "At church I'm really happy with our new Allen organ—the sound is wonderful," she says. Husband Frank has retired, and Patricia says she hopes to retire soon. The couple is hosting a Polish exchange student attending the local (Lambertville, N.J.) high school—their sixth exchange student in 10 years. ▼ **Maaja A. Stewart's** *Domestic Realities and Imperial Fictions: Jane Austen's Novels in Eighteenth-Century Contexts*, was published in November by U. Georgia Press. ▼ Duo pianists **Joan Yarbrough** and Robert Cowan recently returned from Moscow, where they made their Russian debut and presented the Russian premiere of Max Bruch's Concerto for Two Pianos and Orchestra, Op. 88a, with the Moscow Philharmonic, Paul Freeman, conductor, in Tchaikovsky Hall Feb. 27. A recording of the Bruch, along with their playing of Milhaud's Concerto for Two Pianos and Orchestra with Freeman and the Royal Philharmonic, will be released by Centaur on compact disc. In January Joan was artistic director for the first Alabama International Piano Competition. ▼ **David Zucker** has begun editing a new journal, *The Quinnipiac/Schweitzer Journal*. It is a publication of Quinnipiac Coll., where David is a professor of English, and the affiliated Albert Schweitzer Inst. for the Humanities. The journal will accept articles about human rights, ethics and theology, health policy, music and the arts, the environment, and animal and peace issues. For submission guidelines David may be reached c/o *Quinnipiac/Schweitzer Journal*, Quinnipiac Coll., Hamden, CT 06518.

1961 **Eric Arnold, Jr.**, is the editor and translator of *A Documentary Survey of Napoleonic France*, published in December by University Press of America. The book offers a selection of primary sources from the Napoleonic Era, including laws, decrees, treaties, policy statements, and other official French documents. ▼ **Dick Baker** recently left academia after the last hurdle, writing a textbook on family medicine. He's now a private practitioner, a new husband, and a new Seattlite, and,



Baker

he says, "loving it all." ▼ **Arthur Lester**, principle shareholder in Arthur H. Lester, M.D., J.D., P.A., wrote the cover story for the December 1993 issue of the *Florida Bar Journal*, "Claims for Medical Expenses under the Doctrine of Necessaries." Arthur practices law and gynecology in Ft. Walton Beach, Fla. ▼ **Annie Shaver-Crandell**, recently promoted to full professor in the Art Dept. of CUNY's City Coll. of New York, has been selected by the Women's Caucus for Art to receive one of two 1994 President's Awards in recognition of contributions to the women's movement and the arts. She is author of *The Middle Ages*, in the *Cambridge Introduction to the History of Art* series (also just published in Norwegian, joining translations into Portuguese, Italian, Spanish, and Japanese) and a coauthor of a forthcoming three-volume annotated critical edition and English translation of the anonymous 12th-century Latin *Pilgrim's Guide to Santiago de Compostela*. In June and July she leads a two-week study trip from Paris to Santiago de Compostela under the auspices of the Soc. of Architectural Historians, whose new president is Franklin Toker '66. Annie is a past president of the Women's Caucus for Art, former chair of the City Coll. Art Dept., and a photographer and quilt maker. Her photograph is by her husband, Keith H. Crandall. ▼ In January the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund awarded **Geoffrey Ward** one of its nine annual Writer's Awards, worth \$105,000 each. A condition of the grant is that the writers work for three years with a nonprofit organization to develop programs to increase public appreciation for contemporary literature. With the New York Society Library, Geoffrey will give three annual lectures on biography writing. He is author of a two-volume biography of Franklin Roosevelt, two books on India, and the script for the PBS series *The Civil War* among other writings.



Shaver-Crandell

1963 **John Ferguson's** "The Church Organist and Hymn Playing" was published in the January issue of the *American Organist*. ▼ *Delaware Today* asked Delaware Symphony music director **Stephen Gunzenhauser**—along with 18 other high-profile Delawareans—"If you could have any job in the world, even if only for a day, what would it be?" Stephen's answer was "running back for the Philadelphia Eagles." The magazine published Stephen's answer and ran a short profile of him with his photograph—in Eagles gear—in its December 1993 issue. ▼ **Linda Turman Moore**, former assistant to the rector at Trinity Episcopal Church, Lewiston, Maine, was ordained March 22. She will stay with Trinity, a congregation that recognizes its neighborhood connection, especially to the poor. Linda moved to Maine from Washington, D.C., where she was

involved with a Montessori school for 17 years and also worked for Catholic Charities.

1964 According to a column in the Dec. 20 Worcester, Mass., *Telegram & Gazette*, Rich '66 and **Wendy Webster Ardizzone** were to begin doing in February what they dreamed of doing when they were con students: running a music school together. Wendy has been teaching at Worcester's Joy of Music Program since starting the school in 1986. The school, which Wendy runs, employs a faculty of 22 to teach 300 students of wind, string, and percussion instruments. Until February, when he joined Joy of Music to help direct and teach, Rich was involved in area preschools and had been director of Worcester's Rainbow Child Development Center since 1977. Rich plays jazz regularly with the Rich Falco Quartet. ▼ **Richard Shirey** has been appointed organist-choirmaster at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Canton, Ohio. Former director of music at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Akron, where he had served since 1976, Richard continues as professor of music at U. Akron, where he teaches music theory. He is organist for the Akron Symphony and piano accompanist for the Symphony Chorus. In September a compact disc was released on which Richard was solo pianist in Daniel McCarthy's Concerto for Keyboards. His last opportunity to be back in Salzburg was in 1989 when he spent a sabbatical studying 20th-century English organ music in London and German lieder accompanying in Vienna. Richard, his partner, and their cat live at 484 Overwood Rd., Akron, OH 44313. ▼ Director of Ball State U.'s Sch. of Music **Greg A. Steinke** is also director of the Earnest Bloch Music Festival and of the Composers Symposium in Newport, Ore., each July. "Am enjoying many performance of my works across the country," he says. Allen & Bacon released a new edition of the Steinke/Harder *Harmonic Materials in Tonal Music, Pts. I and II* in January. ▼ *Kenya's Best Hotels, Lodges & Homestays*, coauthored by **Joan Ehrlich Westly**, has been published by Kenway Publications in Nairobi. "We are looking for an American distributor," says Joan. The book includes information on hotels, lodges, tented camps, and homestays, whose descriptions and impressions are based on the authors' recent personal visits. Address: USAID, Unit 64102, APO New York, NY 09831-4102.



Shirey

babies. Most Danish parents use disposable diapers on their babies, but "with 45,000 tons of disposables containing 1000 tons of plastic on their conscience each year, Danes are going to have to become more environmentally conscious," Bonnie told a writer for a Danish magazine, *Vort Folk*, which published an article about Bonnie and her work in its January issue. Her company has not yet shown a profit, according to a November article published by the Danish Ministry of Environment, but receives enough financial assistance from the EC to hire an assistant. Bonnie has lived in Denmark since 1968. ▼ The *Philadelphia Inquirer* interviewed **Elliot Shelkrot**, president of the Free Library of Philadelphia, for "Turning Over a New Leaf at the Library," published in its Dec. 2 edition. The *Inquirer* called Elliot "one of a new breed of librarian—part scholar, part salesman, part showman—who are doing everything but sing and dance to get book patrons in the door." ▼ In January Aletheia Publications issued a paperback version of *The Absentee American: Repatriates' Perspective on America*, by **Carolyn D. Smith**. The hardback version of the work—which describes the impact of overseas living on Americans who spent at least some of their formative years in countries other than the United States—was published in 1991.

1966 The Northeast Ohio Artists Calendar features work by **W. Logan Fry**, among 12 other Northeast Ohio artists. The calendar was created by NOVA (New Organization for the Visual Artists) and Booksellers, a large independent bookstore in the Cleveland area. ▼ **Sandra Mangsen** has been promoted to associate professor with tenure at U. Western Ontario. Having, she says, overcome her undergraduate training in sociology, and having collected music degrees from McGill and Cornell, she teaches musicology and early-music performance. She is also a professional harpsichordist. "Would love to hear from others who studied in the college at Oberlin but now make their living in music," she says. E-mail: smangsen@uwovox.uwo.ca.

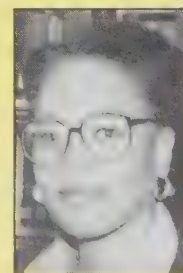
1967 **Ellen Chances**, professor of Russian literature and culture at Princeton, has written the first book in any language on Bitov, whom she calls one of Russia's most important contemporary writers (*Andrei Bitov: The Ecology of Inspiration*, Cambridge U. Press). "He is interested in all the big questions that have always plagued the Russian greats: Dostoevsky, Tolstoy, Chekhov, etc. In addition, he is very much a 20th-century writer, in his analysis of the psychological scars Stalin left on Soviet society, in his concern for ecology, in his innovative 'ecological' style of writing." Ellen has recently become more involved with nonacademic writing, too. She has finished a book of poetry and is working on essays

Activism Colloquium Rescheduled

The weekend of November 11-12 is the rescheduled date for the Colloquium on Activism and the Oberlin Tradition, sponsored by the Class of 1965. The primary focus of the colloquium will be on activism as a process, rather than on a set of specific issues or causes.

"We are still looking for more people who are interested in participating," says Midge Wood Brittingham '60, executive director of the Alumni Association, who is planning the event with a committee of faculty and students. "If you are active in issues concerning environmentalism; racism; law and human rights; labor; women's issues; homelessness, poverty and economic justice; global development; sexual orientation; public health; political participation and access; or any other area of activism, please send us your name, address, phone numbers, and a short description of your work and how you think it would fit the goals of this colloquium." Address: Alumni Association, Bosworth Hall, Oberlin, OH 44074.

and fiction. ▼ The American Negro Spiritual Research Foundation, whose acting board-of-directors chair is **François Clemmons**, performed in the fifth annual Martin Luther King, Jr., Vigil Concert, at New York City's Trinity Lutheran Church Jan. 15. François (known as Frank when he was a student) established the nonprofit foundation in 1989 to preserve and perform the American Negro spiritual in its original form. (See the feature story "Deep River" in this issue for more about François's activities.) ▼ **Lillian Lynk Fleming** has received tenure at the City Colls. of Chicago. She began working for Wilbur Wright Coll., one of the City Colls., in 1984 as assistant to the vice-president and since then has held positions as director of research and dean of the Adult Learning Skills Program there. In 1990 she selected a position in the Social Sciences Dept. of the college credit faculty, where



Fleming

1967 CONTINUED

she teaches introductory social science and world regional geography. ▼ In March—near the birthday of J.S. Bach—**J. Reilly Lewis** pulled off a benefit concert for the Washington (D.C.) Bach Consort that included a harpsichord performance by William F. Buckley, Jr., on the same stage with Eugene McCarthy reading poetry. Reilly directs the consort, which has a 32-member chorus and orchestra and each season presents a five-concert subscription series, a free noon-hour Cantata Concert Series, and musical-education programs for children. Ted Gest '68, submitted a March 25 *Metropolitan Times* newspaper clipping about the event. ▼ **Karen Friedberg Nierenberg** was recently promoted to associate dean for external relations at Stanford's Graduate Sch. of Business. She says she and her husband, **Michael**, "are empty nest now, with Erik a freshman at Pomona and Jenni a senior at UC-Davis. . . . We would love to slow the pace down a bit, but just haven't figured out how," she says.

1968 **Michael G. Knowlton**, former superintendent of the Valhalla, N.Y., school system, has become superintendent of the Summit, N.J., school district, according to the Jan. 26 Newark, N.J., *Star-Ledger*. ▼ According to the January *American Organist* **Michael Murray** has recorded a Telarc CD of the First and Third Symphonies of Louis Vierne on the organ at Saint-Ouen Abbey. ▼ Livingston, N.J., resident **Beth Schwartz Robinson** is scheduled to be harp soloist with the Chautauqua Symphony, with Catherine Comet conducting, in July—Beth's 19th season at Chautauqua. ▼ **Mark Schomer** and his wife, Ana Marie, have moved to Richmond, Va., where, as director at the Christian Children's Fund, Mark secures grants and gifts-in-kind. For eight years earlier he had done development work for Save the Children in Westport, Conn. The couple's daughter Nadia is a senior at U. Connecticut, and their daughter Vera is a sophomore at Providence Coll. The whole family visited relatives in Guatemala in June 1993. ▼ On August 1, 1993, **Jody Wise** and Gail Isenberg presented the 45th anniversary concert commemorating the founding of the Sunday Afternoon Series in Old Deerfield, Mass. The four-hand, one-piano concert, which took place on a restored 1868 Steinway grand, drew the largest audience in the series' history, says Jody. The program included works by Beethoven, Dvorak, Granados, Ravel, Poulenc, Barber, and Schoenfield. Jean Murphy—wife of the late Richard Murphy, professor emeritus of music history—flew in from Oberlin for the occasion. Other Oberlinians at-



Wise

tending were Laurence Bohrer '32, Allison Weed Herrick '64, Daniel Fallon '65, Margaret Anne Clark Dennett '66, and Sam Rechteris '69.

1969 For 12 years **Rich "Ben" Benjamin** has been associated with a community action agency (a "poverty fighter," he says) in Medford, Oreg. He manages a resource-development department, which encompasses fund-raising, public relations, and management of volunteers. Ben is married to Sally Jones, professor of health and physical education at Southern Oregon State Coll. He says he does a "lot of running and tennis to stay sane." ▼ **Ken Braiterman** has been recognized by the New England Press Assoc. for his series on health-care reform published in March 1993 by the *Eagle-Tribune* newspaper. He is in his ninth year at the paper, his third year as assistant editor of the editorial page. The prize-winning series went into 80,000 homes in 30 cities and towns between Manchester, N.H., and Newburyport, Mass. Ken lives at 15 Culver St., #7, Plaistow, NH 03865. Telephone: (603) 382-4395. ▼ **Jamie Stiller** lives in Columbia County, in upstate New York, in a 100-year-old house across from a sheep farm with playwright James Farrell, 7-year-old daughter, Cleo, two cats, a dwarf bunny, and a finch. She says her 22-year-old son, Alex, who graduated from Trinity Coll. in May 1993, is an actor in New York City and hardly ever visits. Jamie recently choreographed *A Christmas Carol*, starring Wilford Brimley with sets by Tony award-winner Desmond Heeley, and directed by noted British director Frank Hauser.

1970 To their astonishment, they say, **Rob** and **Miriam Camp Foshay** are still ensconced in the Chicago suburb of Naperville. In 1989 Rob joined TRO Learning, Inc., a technology-based training and education company whose principal products include the PLATO computer-based educational system. Vice-president for quality assurance, standards, and training, he has overall responsibility for the instructional design of the company's products. He still finds time for amateur radio and emergency-communications volunteering, but his travel schedule keeps him from choral work. Miriam is with TRC Environmental Corp., where she is a senior environmental scientist. She typically manages, for public and private-sector clients, a half dozen projects involving pollution prevention and remediation. She's also treasurer for the local League of Women Voters. The couple's older daughter, Elena, will soon decide whether Oberlin is right for her, so the family's Oberlin links may be renewed for another generation. Meanwhile, their younger daughter, Elisa, is flourishing on the violin under the tutelage of Vivienne Venderley '83. ▼ In 1993, after 21 years of combined service in the active army and army reserves, **Douglas W. Graham**

was promoted to lieutenant colonel. He is chief of the Administrative Services Div., 121st U.S. Army Reserve Command. In 1993 General Colin Powell recognized the 121st as the best U.S. Army reserve command in the world. "Hopefully, my contributions—in a small way—made this recognition possible," says Douglas. Living in Hoover, Ala., he is corporate personnel director of First Alabama Bancshares, "one of the strongest banks in the United States," he says, "with assets exceeding \$10 billion." ▼ In January Clark Boardman Callaghan published **Carolyn A. Kubitschek's** *Social Security Disability Law and Practice in Federal Court*, a treatise on Social Security law. The work focuses on the constitutional, legal, and procedural issues that most frequently occur in Social Security litigation, describes legal strategies, and gives advice for litigating those cases. Carolyn directed the first disability-advocacy project in New York, has taught in the field, and has practiced Social Security law for more than 10 years. ▼ **Armena Marderosian** is producing CDs on which she performs the piano parts of solo and duet folk-based songs of Grikor Mirzaian Suni (1876-1934), Armenian composer, ethnomusicologist, conductor, and teacher. With three singers, Armena gave a concert of the works Mar. 5 at U. Michigan's Rackham Auditorium. The Suni Project, which Armena founded and directs, is devoted to publishing and recording the works of this composer, who is the grandfather of her husband, Ronald Grigor Suny, a history professor at Oberlin from 1968 to 1981. Armena is a piano teacher-trainer for the Suzuki Assoc. of the Americas and a member of the Ann Arbor Suzuki Inst. piano faculty. Ron will be teaching in the Political Science Dept. at U. Chicago this fall. Address: 1723 Wells, Ann Arbor, MI 48104. Telephone: (313) 996-1949. ▼ **Connie Springer** and her husband, Steve Kosztala, have adopted their second son, Jackson, from Vietnam. Their first son, Renny, 6, is from Korea. Jackson turns a year old in May. "Are there any other adoptive parents in the Oberlin community with Vietnamese children? We'd like to make contact," says Connie. Address: 3525 Larkspur Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45208. Telephone: (513) 871-1677.

1971 **Larry Abraham**, U. Texas-Austin associate professor of kinesiology and health education, has received the 1993-94 William David Blunk Memorial Professorship, sponsored by the UT Parents Assoc. in recognition of outstanding teaching and service to undergraduate students. "It is nice to know that a prestigious research university with the largest graduate program in the country also demonstrates concern for the education and welfare of undergraduates," Larry says. "I believe that the seeds of this honor were sown at Oberlin." ▼ **Geoff DeGraff** has written a

book about nirvana, *The Mind Like Fire Unbound*, under his Bhuddist name, Thanissaro Bhikkhu. The book is available free from Dhamma Dana Publications in Barre, Mass. It relates how early Bhuddists viewed fire—what they saw happening as a fire burned, and what happened to the fire when it went out—and shows the influence of this perspective on Bhuddist doctrine in general, and on the practice of meditation in particular. Geoff is abbot of the Metta Forest Monastery in Valley Center, Calif. ▼ Soprano **Dee F. Eaker** is a music specialist with the Charlotte-Mecklenburg (N.C.) Sch. System. She sang the role of Annina in *La Traviata*—a role she first sang as a sophomore with Oberlin Opera Theater—in October with Opera Carolina. “It brought back memories,” Dee says. ▼ **Philip (formerly Faflick) Elmer-DeWitt** has been promoted to senior writer at *Time* magazine, where in the past year he produced cover stories on cyberpunk, the information highway, video games, human cloning, and genetic engineering. He designed the Time Online area of America Online. E-mail: ped@well.com. ▼ According to the *American Organist*’s February issue, *I was glad* (Psalm 122), an anthem setting for mixed voices, organ, and optional brass quintet by **David Hurd**, premiered Oct. 17 at Des Moines’ Cathedral Church of St. Paul, which commissioned the work. New York City’s All Saints Church, where David is director of music, commissioned another work, *And Jacob was left alone*, an anthem for unaccompanied mixed voices that premiered at the church Nov. 6. Augsburg Fortress recently published David’s 1992 work *Blessed are those servants*, an anthem for mixed voices, organ, and optional brass quartet. A reviewer for the January issue of *Diapason* wrote about David’s *Partita on “Detroit” for Organ*, also recently published by Augsburg Fortress: “The variations are quite different from one another, and show great imagination in their construction and in their use of harmony.” ▼ The Dec. 9 *San Diego Union-Tribune* ran a profile of **Garry Kvistad** that highlighted his Anyone Can Whistle mail-order catalog of world musical instruments and referred to his Woodstock Windchimes and collaboration with composer Steve Reich. ▼ **Deborah Lubar** has been granted a three-year leave from Smith Coll. for further study of healing techniques and their application to theater and performance. She’ll be living in the Vermont mountains, “trading shopping for stargazing,” she says. ▼ The artwork of **Naomi Nemtzow** was exhibited at the Washington Art Assoc. in Washington Depot, Conn., Mar. 5-27 in a show called *Urban Landscape*. ▼ **William F. Schulz**, former president of the Unitarian Universalist Assoc.



Schulz

of Congregations—where he led the association’s involvement in human-rights activism in El Salvador, India, Rumania, and elsewhere—has been named executive director of Amnesty International USA.

1972 **Ardie Bausenbach**, an automation specialist at the Library of Congress (LC), is helping determine requirements for a new client-serve retrieval system for the Library’s text and bibliographic files. She’s also working on a project for Stephen Ostrow ’54 (chief of LC’s Prints and Photographs Div.) to link the library’s digital print and photographic images with USMARC bibliographic records. Ardie is past president of the Washington, D.C., Alumni Club and a former class agent; last year she ended a term as class copresident. She serves on a funding-raising committee for the Oberlin Coll. Library, and continues to do a lot of volunteer work for Planned Parenthood and the Women’s Political Caucus. Ardie; her husband, Bob Love ’64; and the couple’s 5-year-old son, Evans, live in Chevy Chase, Md. When not going to soccer and T-ball games, they spend time at their new beach house in Lewes, Del. E-mail: bausenba@mail.loc.gov. ▼ **Carrie Clark DeCato** is the new grant writer and editor for the Arkansas Arts Center. “There is a foundation or grant that will fund almost anything, it’s just a matter of matching the two,” she told a reporter for the Jan. 2 *Arkansas Democrat Gazette*. Carrie recently earned an M.B.A. at U. Pittsburgh. Before returning to school she had been the registrar at the Museum of Modern Art and at Minneapolis’s Walker Art Center. ▼ **Richard M. Gold** has opened a branch of his San Diego-based Pacific Coll. of Oriental Medicine. The new school, Pacific Inst. of Oriental Medicine, offers courses in Oriental medicine and acupuncture in New York City. Rick has been appointed to the National Advisory Bd. of the American Oriental Bodywork Assoc. In the past year he has taught in Israel, Amsterdam, New Orleans, Hilton Head, New York, and San Francisco. He teaches Chinese medicine and recently added the traditional medical massage of Thailand, *nuad borarn*, to his personal curriculum. Last year he made his third trip to Thailand with his wife, Pnina, to further his studies. The couple also traveled to Nepal “for fun and to explore/study Ayurvedic medicine,” he says. ▼ For the second consecutive year **Alisa Gabriel Litwin** has won the Effie Award for advertising effectiveness for her client Hasbro Toys. “Inspiration comes,” she says, “from watching the ways my kids, David, 8, and Jennifer, 3-1/2, turn everything imaginable into a toy.”

1973 **Liz Burgess** has been designing and hand-dyeing silk garments for two years. Her work is on sale at two locations in Oberlin and elsewhere in Ohio; she is, she recently told a *Plain*

Dealer reporter, “trying for national shows.” The *PD* profiled her Jan. 14. ▼ **Marty Dugan**, vice-president for facility management at Herman Miller, Inc., is one of 27 selected in the Holland, Mich., area for Leadership Holland, a program of the Holland Area Chamber of Commerce. Over a year the group will consider challenges facing Holland, such as education, youth, violence, and the community’s rapid growth. ▼ **Ken Kay** is a partner with the Washington, D.C., law firm Preston Gates Ellis & Rouvelas Meeds. He is also executive director of the Computer Systems Policy Project—composed of the CEOs of the largest U.S. computer companies—where he works on U.S. technology and trade policy, focusing on public policies related to the emerging information highway. Ken’s wife, Karen Christensen, was recently named general counsel to the National Endowment for the Arts. Son Jeff, 22, teaches English in Osaka, Japan. Braden, 11, is into geography and the Baltimore Orioles. Bergen, 8, plays piano and second base for the Yankees, a team her dad manages. ▼ Three of **Rich Orloff**’s full-length plays will receive their world premieres this summer. His romantic comedy *Damaged Goods* will be produced at the Flat Rock Playhouse in Flat Rock, North Carolina, July 6-16; *Veronica’s Position*, a comedy about love and politics, will be produced at the Phoenix Theater in Indianapolis June 30-July 24; and his latest work, *Someone’s Knocking*, will be produced at St. Michael’s Playhouse in Colchester, Vermont, in August. On Aug. 17 the New Hope (Pa.) Performing Arts Festival will stage readings of two of Rich’s one-act plays, *Oedi* and *The News from St. Petersburg*. *Veronica’s Position* recently won the 1994 RCZ Festival of American Theater Competition. Between productions Rich will relax, he says, in his new New York apartment, where he has begun living with his girlfriend, Amy. He says he is “almost over the shock of his life going so well.” Address: 800 West End Ave. #11E, New York, NY 10025.

1974 The London *Independent* of March 16 reports that **Anita Avramides** has become junior proctor at Oxford U. The *Independent* calls Anita’s election to the office “history making”; it is the first time both senior and junior proctors have been women. Anita will be in charge of undergraduate discipline and examinations. She is a philosophy fellow at St. Hilda’s Coll. Professor of Philosophy Norm Care passed along to the *OAM* the clipping Professor of Philosophy Dan Merrill sent him. ▼ **Mary Anne Cartelli** married Jon Pareles, chief pop-music critic for the *New York Times*, Jan. 6. She’s keeping her name. New home address: 122 Spring St. #4S, New York, NY 10012. Office: Dept. of Classical and Oriental Studies, Hunter Coll., 695 Park Ave., New York, NY 10021. E-mail:

1974 CONTINUED

macartelli@mcimail.com. ▼

Gretchen Hewitt was invited to sing her composition "Symphony of Brotherhood" at the King Center in Atlanta during the week in which Martin Luther King's birthday was celebrated this February. She took the title for her piece from



Hewitt

King's "I Have a Dream" speech. Gretchen's address: 15524 72nd Ave. W., Edmonds, WA 98020. ▼ After 15 years of practicing law in Washington, D.C., **Toby Slawsky** has returned home to Philadelphia to be the circuit executive for the United States Third Circuit Court of Appeals. Her husband, Scott Filderman, is also glad to be back in Philly, and the couple's daughter, Julie, 4, is enjoying all her grandparents' attention. Address: 406 E. Waverly Rd., Wyncote, PA 19095. ▼ *Sorcery and Shamanism*, by **Donald Joralemon** and Douglas Sharon, was published recently by U. Utah Press. The book documents the lives and rituals of 12 curanderos and offers a view of the shamans' work in modern Peruvian society. Donald is professor of anthropology at Smith Coll. ▼ In late May **Steve Katz** started as development director for the Center for Investigative Reporting in San Francisco. For about five years he had worked at Citizens for a Better Environment, joined the last year or so by Wendall Chin '92. He has lived "out in Fairfax" for about four years with his wife, Rae, and the couple's 5-year-old, Noah. E-mail: skatz.well.sf.ca.us. ▼

Elizabeth Taylor Quilliam was recently hired as vice-president of sales and electronic funds transfer (EFT) services in the Card Services Div. of CUNA Service Group, an affiliate of the Credit Union National Assoc. She oversees credit-union-league regulations and sales activities, and is moving EFT services to single-point authorization.

1975 After 17 years of study **Marsha Beck-Phillips** has received a Ph.D. in ancient Greek philosophy from Bryn Mawr Coll. She has taught philosophy for 12 years and is in her third year at the Coll. of St. Catherine in St. Paul, Minn. She is spending the summer at Duke, attending an NEH summer institute called Plato and the Polis. Her daughter, Rachel, 19, graduated from high school in 1992, spent the following year in Switzerland as an AFS student, and just completed her first year at Grinnell. Marsha and her husband, Craig, a computer programmer and poet, also have a son, Carl, 15, and another daughter, Erica, 12. ▼ Jesuit priest **Martin Chase** is in Copenhagen, where he works as school chaplain and religion teacher at Niels Steensens Gymnasium, the only Catholic secondary school in Scandinavia. "I like being here," Martin says. "The students are very open and interested in

religion. But I also miss the states and my friends and the big world out there." This is Martin's second stay in Denmark; he spent time there earlier while earning a Ph.D. in Old Norse at U. Toronto. Address: Sankt Kjelds Gade 3, 2100 Copenhagen Ø, Denmark. E-mail: nkskj@inet.uni-c.dk. ▼

Robert Lemle has been promoted to executive vice-president, general counsel, and secretary of Cablevision Systems, the nation's fifth largest cable company. Robert is also a member the company's board of directors, a position he has held since 1988, and a member of the Office of the CEO. The office, composed of the company's senior executives, oversees and evaluates Cablevision Systems' strategic objectives. ▼ Baritone **Richard White** is playing the Phantom in the Maury Yeston-Arthur Kopit musical *Phantom*. He originated the role at the show's Houston premiere in 1991 and sings the part on the RCA Victor cast album. Richard told a writer for *Show Music* (Winter 1993/94) that he is particularly fond of the musical's poignant duet "You Are My Own," which the writer calls "a surefire tear-inducer [Richard] feels is saved from sentimentality by the insertion of a few lines of bleakly comic dialogue." Richard is also the villain Gaston in the Disney version of *Beauty and the Beast*. Referring to that role Richard told the *Show Music* writer, "I have done something that is going to live longer than I am, something that I am very, very proud of and very pleased with."



Lemle

1976 **Roni Kohen-Lemle** and her husband, Robert Lemle '75, are among the founders of the Long Island Children's Museum, which opened in November in Garden City, N.Y. The museum offers a hands-on educational and cultural experience with five interactive exhibits and ongoing special events. The Nov. 21 *New York Times* reviewed it as "A Museum That Says, 'Go Ahead and Touch.'" A member of the museum's board of trustees, Robert raises funds for the museum besides holding another position. (See his class note.) Roni, vice-president of the board of trustees, coordinates programs and workshops, including a children's jazz program, and is still singing. The couple's son, Zach, is 11, and daughter, Joanna, is 7. ▼ **Victor M. Sher** has been named president of the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund, an independent public-interest environmental-law firm that represents several hundred non-profit clients, including the Sierra Club. The former head of the organization's Pacific Northwest office in Seattle, Vic is well known for his pioneering litigation to protect the northern spotted owl and its ancient forest habitat in the Pacific Northwest. "The spotted owl is just the beginning," says Vic. "We face a growing ecological

crisis around the country. . . . [And] we have the chance today to marry civil rights with environmental rights. The courts have played a central role in both the civil rights and environmental movements. The Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund is committed to building an environment that is both ecologically sound and socially just." ▼ This fall **Spyros A. Svoronos** was promoted to full professor of chemical engineering at U. Florida, where he has been since 1982. Also this fall, he received a State of Florida Teaching Improvement Program award recognizing his superior accomplishments in undergraduate teaching. ▼ Last year **Elaine S. Yoneoka** was awarded grants from the Massachusetts Cultural Council and the Brockton (Mass.) Arts Council to create a ceramic mural with a fiber artist from Laos. She is also making relief tiles for the exterior of a temple under construction in the Los Angeles area. She lives in Jamaica Plain, Mass.

1977 **Rick Lohmann** has married Margaret Carpenter '90. See Margaret's class note. ▼ **Kurt Schwenk**'s notion of why snakes have forked tongues has been receiving mass-media attention since his article on the subject appeared in the March 18 issue of *Science*. Among those picking up on Kurt's theory are National Public Radio, Fox Cable TV, the *Boston Globe*, and *National Geographic*. The concept? Stereo sampling of chemicals on the ground that help snakes locate prey and mates. Kurt is assistant professor of ecology and evolutionary biology at U. Connecticut. His work rests on experimental data collected by—among others—Mimi Halpern '60, professor of anatomy and cell biology at the SUNY Health Science Center in Brooklyn. The two only recently discovered they share the same alma mater. ▼ **Rob Tiller** has been named a partner in the Raleigh, N.C., law firm of Parker, Poe, Adams & Bernstein, where he has practiced two and a half years. During business hours, he says, he works primarily in the area of commercial litigation, and at home he and his wife, Sally Berkeley, mediate disputes between Gabe, 9, and Jocelyn, 6.

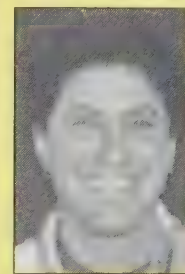
1978 Washington, D.C., resident **Jan Cigliano** has won two awards for her book *Showplace of America: Cleveland's Euclid Avenue, 1850-1910*. The Society of Architectural Historians, Western Reserve (Ohio) Chapter, gave her its 1993 Book Award, and the Cleveland Restoration Society presented her with its Publications Award. ▼ On Jan. 18, while on vacation in the Southwest, **Tim Ditlow** and Cecilia Soprano were married in Ouray, Colo. Frank Seanez '79 and his family drove up from Window Rock, Ariz., to join the celebration. Tim, Cecilia, and Matthew, Tim's 11-year-old son, are in their third year of renovating an 18th-century farmhouse in Connecticut. They "hope to have it finished this

century," says Tim. ▼ **Melissa Hunter-Kilmer** says she is still living in the Washington suburb of Vienna, Va.; still married to her first husband—Jonathan Hunter-Kilmer, brother of Deborah Kilmer '76; and still has four kids—Patrick, 12; Meg, 10; Rosie, 8; and Timmy, 5. She still has two dogs, a minivan, and a big back yard. She's been a technical writer for the same firm for nearly 10 years. Still into organic gardening, she says this year's vegetable patch is in the front yard, where it gets the best light. "Can't put it in the backyard; the kids and dogs would run roughshod over it. The neighbors hate it, and that's sad," she says. "Anybody have any ideas on how to convince diehard herbicide and pesticide users to switch to less dangerous management methods? Write me at 1110 Hillcrest Dr. SW, Vienna, VA 22180. . . . We pick strawberries at Chip ['62] and Susan [Hilgart '63] Planck's farm near Purcellville every year." She says the Plancks' farm is well planned for low environmental impact. ▼ This winter Capriole, the early-music ensemble of which **Gayle Johnson** is artistic director, performed two concerts of the music of Henry Purcell as part of the tercentenary events of the Coll. of William and Mary, where the ensemble was in residence at the time. ▼ **Ken Koster** and his wife, Ann Tuttle, celebrated the birth of their first child, Olivia Alice, on Dec. 23. Ken practices emergency medicine, and Ann practices anesthesiology in Cincinnati. "We are unsure about how we will balance parenting with our careers," Ken says. ▼ According to the Oct. 25 edition of the New York City *Journal of Commerce*, Columbia, Md., environmental lawyer **Sally Ann Lentz** is counsel for Ocean Advocates. She is working with the International Maritime Organization to get it to adopt the "precautionary principle," which would put the burden of proof on the maritime industry to show its actions do not harm the environment. She and her husband, **Elliott Cowan**, a commercial lawyer in Baltimore, have two sons, Jacob, 4, and Max, 2. ▼ Cellist **Rhonda Rider** performed with the Lydian String Quartet on the Oberlin campus Feb. 10 in a Finney Chapel Artists Recital series concert. ▼ **George Thurston** and **Sally Whitney**, who were married in June 1988, announce the birth of their son Jesse Hassler Thurston on Oct. 13. Sally (now Sally Witney Thurston) is working on a Ph.D. in statistics at Harvard. She received an M.S. in natural resources (forest science) from Cornell in 1991, and decided she'd "rather analyze data than be bitten by mosquitoes while collecting it," she says. George is a physicist at Oculon Corp. in Cambridge, working on pharmaceuticals for inhibition of cataract disease. Address: 22 Troy Rd., Belmont, MA 02178. E-mail for Sally: thurston@stat.harvard.edu.

1979 **Ruskin K. Cooper** has survived the

comprehensive exam for the D.M.A. at UNC-Greensboro. "This involved," he says, "three days of writing at nine hours a whack." He passed with distinction. ▼ A second daughter, Lily, was born March 24, 1993, to **Tim Corfman** and **Molly Sorenson**. The family lives in Walnut Creek, Calif. ▼ After 15 years in Michigan **Bonnie DeSimone** is returning to her first professional love—sportswriting. She has taken a sports-features job at the Cleveland *Plain Dealer*. "This may stun my Oberlin friends who remember my relentless complaints about the flatlands," she says. "All I have to say is, I haven't changed much since college; Cleveland has." Bonnie has been single again since 1990. Address: 11900 Edgewater, #406, Lakewood, OH 44107. Telephone: (216) 228-9029. ▼ The Cleveland *Plain Dealer* article that preceded harpsichordist **Jillon Stoppels Durpre**'s March concert at the Cleveland Museum of Art mentioned her inclusion of music by modern composers—including Scott Joplin—in her repertoire. "Joplin sounds great on the harpsichord," she told the *Plain Dealer* music critic. ▼ Tenor **Colenton Freeman** was a soloist at the Dec. 12 concert of the Oberlin Musical Union in Oberlin. ▼ Musicologist **Remo Mazzetti**'s performing version of Mahler's 10th Symphony was presented March 15 in Carnegie Hall by Leonard Slatkin and the St. Louis Symph., which has recorded the work for RCA Victor. A reviewer for the March 17 *New York Times* called Remo's version of Mahler's unfinished symphony "less reflective, more playful than [Deryck] Cook's" more familiar version. ▼ Soprano **Nancy Parent** sang in That Zany Soprano Strikes Again, subtitled A Recital of Mostly Comic Songs by Serious Composers, Jan. 23 at Marylhurst Coll. in Lake Oswego, Oreg., for the Oberlin Alumni Club of Oregon. Nancy is a member of the faculty of Portland State U.'s Urban Music Project (piano and music theory) and teaches voice, piano, and music theory privately. ▼ After three months in Australia—with a side trip to Thailand—**Harriet "Happy," Geoff**, Rob, 7, and Thomas, 4, **Sayre McCord** are back in North Carolina. Happy has taken up teaching at the Montessori Children's House of Durham, and Geoff has just been named (for a three-year term) the first Gillian T. Cell Associate Professor at UNC; he teaches in the Philosophy Dept. there. ▼ **Sule Greg C. Wilson** is working with the Smithsonian's African American Museum Project. "In the studio again," he says, he is "doing bonus tracks for the CD version of the *Drummer's Path*," due out in June. An excerpt from his next book appeared in the literary journal *Icarus* in February. Also in February he gave a lecture and performance at the Museum of the City of New York; he lectured and performed in San Jose in April. Sule lives in Takoma Park, Md.

1980 **Laura Brachman** completed her residency in internal medicine in June 1993 and is a fellow in the Program for Biopsychosocial Medicine at U. Rochester. ▼ **Jon Dinman** says he has "finally divorced the attorney-wife from hell." He received his Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins in 1989 and says he is happily working with yeast viruses at the National Insts. of Health. He spends his free time brewing beer and, says Jon, "referring to himself in the third



Dinman

person." ▼ **Rachel Abelson Hickson** and her husband, David '82, added a second daughter to their family Jan. 23. "Everyone is doing fine, including big sister Meredith Rose, now 4-1/2," says Rachel. Rachel is a sociologist for the New Jersey state government, and David is head of the science department at Solebury Sch., where he teaches physical sciences. The Hicksons live in New Hope, Pa. ▼ **Michael Korson** recently began the M.A. program in counseling psychology at the California Inst. of Integral Studies. He also works at the institute as the program coordinator in the Psychology Doctoral Program. Work address: CIIS, 765 Ashbury St., San Francisco, CA 94117. Telephone: (415) 753-6100, ext. 271. ▼ **Abbe Lyons** is in her fourth year of a Feldenkrais Professional Training Program, and will be a certified Feldenkrais practitioner in August. Her voice can be heard on an album available through Redwood Cultural Work, *Roots and Wings*, by Linda Hirschhorn and the Vocolot, a six-woman, mostly a capella group. "I've now joined the many East Coast transplants in the SF Bay Area," says Abbe, "including Judith Kate Friedman '83, who I sing with sometimes." ▼ **Julie E. Kaufman** and **Beth Wright** announce the birth of their second child, Käthe Elizabeth Wright Kaufman, on Oct. 14. Kate was born at home to Julie. She joins Micah, 3, in the Kaufman/Wright family, which was profiled in the *Chicago Tribune* during the family-values debate of the last presidential campaign. The family lives in Chicago. ▼ **Carolyn** and **David March** announce the birth of their first child, Kevin Alan, Jan. 7. David is a partner in a radiology practice in Springfield, Mass. Carolyn is a graduate student in English literature and a freelance writer and editor. The family resides in Northampton, Mass. ▼ **Perry B. Newman** has been elected a partner in the Cleveland law firm of Hohn Loeser & Parks. Practicing in creditors' rights, bankruptcy and reorganization, and international law, Perry has been with the firm since 1992. He lives in Shaker Heights, Ohio. ▼ "Fifteen years after Oberlin, life is often good, sometimes hard, and always more complex than I imagined while frolicking on Tappan Square, on Wilder Bowl, or at the old reservoir," says **Frank Rand Saperstein**. Frank has produced or directed

1980 CONTINUED

several popular and acclaimed children's TV shows, including *Pee-wee's Playhouse* for CBS, *New Leave It to Beaver* for Universal, *Bobby's World* for Fox, and *The Ren & Stimpy Show* for Nickelodeon/MTV. He was nominated for Emmy and ACE awards for his work on the *Ren & Stimpy Show*. He is producing and directing a new music-video/TV pilot starring Prince and featuring his music through Frank's own production company and Prince's Paisley Park Enterprises. The father of "a wonderful and fantastic" year-and-a-half-old son, Jack, Frank says he is "going through an unpleasant divorce, California style." He lives in Los Angeles. ▼ **Karl Alexander Schoen-Rene** was recently named a certified internal auditor (CIA) by the Inst. of Internal Auditors. To be so certified Karl had to pass a four-part examination and meet character and experience requirements. He is director of systems audit at MassMutual Life Ins. Co. in Springfield, Mass. Karl lives with his spouse, Patricia, and three children—Kristen, Kurt, and Kyle—in Rockville, Mass. ▼ **Ethan Seidel** has had his contract renewed as a rabbi of Tifereth Israel Congregation, a Conservative egalitarian synagogue in Washington, D.C. He and his wife, the former Rachel Breslow, and their three children, Alex, 7, Natan, 4, and Hannah, 2, live in the synagogue's neighborhood, Shepherd Park. Rachel is taking an extended break from her work as a special-education teacher to be home with the children. ▼ **Bob Stern** lives in Silver Spring, Md., with his wife, Valerie, and Jesse, 11, and Elliott, 3. An assistant general counsel with Marriott International in Bethesda, he works with the division that provides food service to Oberlin Coll.

1981 **Shawn Banner** and his wife, Phylise, announce the birth of their first son, Isaac Sarek Banner, June 26, 1993. Isaac shows "every inclination toward brilliance," says Shawn. "Perhaps he really is the messiah," he speculates. The family lives in Jersey City, N.J. ▼ **Craig Cowden** finished his Ph.D. in clinical psychology in 1991 at Penn State U. and is on the faculty at Northern Virginia Community Coll. He says he loves living in the Washington area and sings with the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, D.C. ▼ Since relocating from Massachusetts to California **Martha Glaser** has begun, she says, practicing earthquake-survival skills such as drinking bottled water and standing in doorways. She teaches English, American history, and math at a private high school north of San Francisco. Martha says she misses East Coast friends. ▼ Although he studied anthropology and art at Oberlin, **Michael Goldstein** now devotes his time to music and dance as leader of the five-member New York City Brazilian group O Samba, according to an

article in the Oct. 16 edition of the *Connecticut Post*. The group performs for adults and school children. ▼ **Rob Groesbeck** and his wife, Pat Jorgenson, announce the birth on Jan. 5 of Katherine Jorgenson Groesbeck, "Class of 2016," says Rob. "Kate noisy," notes her brother, Thomas ("Class of 2014"). "Family life, the goats, et cetera are keeping me at home more these days," Rob says. Address: 10831 4 Mile Rd., Plainwell, MI 49080. ▼ **María Orenge** has joined the American Red Cross in greater New York City as director of volunteer resources.



Orenge

1982 **Heidi Champney** lives in Vermont, where she teaches violin and has recently opened Deep Wisdom—a Spirit Sound Center, where she offers classes and workshops using the voice as a tool for self-discovery. She says she is "starting the center on a shoestring, a big heart, and a great deal of courage." Address: 65B North St., Bristol, VT 05443. ▼ After seven years in medical research, an M.Sc. in microbiology, and a year of unemployment, **Heather Deal** has found her second career as an educational programmer. She designs and coordinates science and environmental courses in continuing studies (nondegree programs) for U. British Columbia. She also sings in and is vice-president of the Vancouver Bach Choir, which sings with the Vancouver Symph. Orch., where Heather has met several Obies. "One night, we figured that there were at least seven Obies on stage." Heather is married to Bruce Rennie ("not an Obie, which he's become acutely aware of," Heather says) and is the proud owner—or servant, she's not sure which—of Bob the Dog. The couple is restoring a 1920 house, which is very old by Vancouver standards, she says. Address: 454 E. King Edward Ave., Vancouver, BC V5V 2C8, Canada. Telephone: (604) 879-5465. E-mail: deal@cce.ubc.ca. ▼ After Oberlin, he says, **Paul Green** spent two years teaching in Peace Corps Togo, eight years "blissing out" in the mountains around Seattle, and now has a three-year postdoc at Harvard studying quasars and carbon stars, "which allows for occasional travel to exotic, though still terrestrial, locales." ▼ After a stint with the Hunger Project in San Francisco, **Karl Jones** is working in Minneapolis as a computer programmer. He plays piano and acts on the side. Karl married Mary Kay Windisch, "a non-Obie," he says, in 1990. Address: 1400 Laurel Ave., W804, Minneapolis, MN 55403. ▼ **Ledlie I. Laughlin** has become rector of Grace Episcopal Church in Norwalk, Conn. ▼ Since leaving Oberlin **Mark E. Nathanson** has become husband to Kim and father to Athena, Jeromy, Erik, and Noah. Mark received his master's degree in psychology from Pepperdine

U. and Ph.D. from the California Graduate Inst. for Psychology. As a clinical psychotherapist he practices in several specialty areas. The one most called upon, he says, is working with abused children and their families and other trauma victims. He is an associate of Morong and Assocs., a psychiatry, psychology, and neurology group in Lancaster, Calif. A doctor in a private clinic, the Center for Healthful Living in Beverly Hills, he is also an allied health professional at Palmdale Hosp. Medical Center and an adjunct professor for Antelope Valley Coll. E-mail: ktmh17a@prodigy.com. ▼ **Dan Rosenblum**, Tamima Friedman '83, and their 2-year-old daughter, Hannah, recently moved to Hong Kong after six years in Tokyo. Dan, who works with Reuters as chief sub-editor, recently won an honorable mention in the American Newspaper Assoc. fiction contest in Tokyo for his short story "The Podiatrist." Tamima, a freelance journalist, music critic, and gourmand, has recently discovered she is allergic to MSG. Address: 96 Seabee Lane, Discovery Bay, Lantau Island, Hong Kong. ▼ **Tom Siegman** is the product group manager for Inter-dental products at the number-two Japanese toothpaste company, Sunstar. "In less fancy words," he says, "I am in charge of trying to get the Japanese to floss their teeth. How's that for a combination of business and social responsibility?" Tom has moved to a house that is fairly large by Japanese standards, he says, and encourages alumni visiting the Osaka/Kyoto/Kobe region to stop by. Address: 2-8-5 Noda-cho, Takatsuki, Osaka, 569 Japan. Home telephone: 0726-61-2888. Office telephone: 0726-82-6155. Fax: 0726-83-5352. E-mail: tsiegman@attmail.com. ▼ **Betsy Spanbock** has been named director of European acquisitions for the Samuel Goldwyn Co., where she has worked since 1990. Based in London, she is responsible for acquisition of projects that originate or are funded in Europe and for the distribution, development, and production of the projects. Films she has acquired since joining Goldwyn include *The Wedding Banquet*, *The Summerhouse*, and *The Stolen Children*. "I'm extremely happy to be in London," Betsy says, "even happier to have left LA, and being here brings back lots of memories of my London semester junior year." Address: c/o Samuel Goldwyn Co., St. Georges House, 14/17 Wells St., London W1P 3FP. Telephone: 071-436-5105. Fax: 071-580-6520.

1983 After graduating from U. Southern California in film and anthropology in 1987, **Nila Bogue** moved to the Bay Area, where she works as a freelance film and video editor and an independent producer and director. She is making a video called "The Choice of a Lifetime," about people who came to the brink of suicide but were able to transform their despair into the will to live. Address: 243 Athol Ave. #14, Oakland, CA 94606.

Telephone: (415) 995-2510. ▼ Call Howard Fields (215) 849-4877 ▼ **Jennifer Gabriel** relocated to Santa Fe from Chicago in September 1993. National sales manager for Organic Food Products, she says she is "enjoying the mountains, high desert, and expanse of New Mexico." ▼ **Paula Carter Houston**, her husband, Darryl, and 2-year-old son, Trent, announce the birth of another son, Tyler Mikal, Nov. 3. The family lives in Pittsburgh. ▼ **Leonard "Biff" Jewell** says he is "back on track." He has been accepted by the Tufts U. Veterinary Sch., where he will begin studies this fall. "I haven't killed myself," he says. Address: 184 W. Canton St., Boston, MA 02116. Telephone: (617) 859-7255. ▼ Project-management and outreach-services consultant **Joyce Luhrs** was recognized as a state leader in the seventh graduating class of Leadership New Jersey. One of 50 people accepted into the program from more than 200 nominations, Joyce studied topics of concern in New Jersey, including the environment, the justice system, education, human conditions, and state government. Resource Reutilization Network, the regional-discards clearinghouse that Joyce founded, helped more than 500 people in need obtain winter coats in the fall. ▼ In August **Beth McKenna** married Michael Greenberg in Durango, Colo. The ceremony and other wedding events were held at Cascade Village at the base of the San Juan and La Plata mountains and at Electra Lake Sporting Club. Shari Garfinkel '85 and her husband, Peter Conover, attended the festivities along with about 65 other local and out-of-town guests. After receiving an M.Mus. degree in violin at Rice U. on a Starling fellowship, Beth became a member of the Houston Ballet and Opera orchestras. She substitutes regularly with the Houston Symphony, where she says she "enjoys hearing the fine playing of former freshman roommate **Aralee Dorough**," HSO principal flutist. A teacher of advanced private students, Beth recently added a group of 8-year-old beginners to her schedule. "Married life has given me a shot of optimism," she says. Address: 2420 Potomac Dr., Houston, TX 77057. ▼ After four years as a Youth Development Specialist with the U. Vermont Extension System, **Michael Martin** has become the county extension director for Penn State U. Cooperative Extension of Luzerne County. While in Vermont, Martin was active in community theater. He played the role of Curly McClain in *Okla-boma!* at the newly renovated Barre Opera House immediately before his move to Pennsylvania. E-mail: MMARTIN@PSUPEN.PSU.EDU. ▼ After receiving his master's degree from U. Michigan in 1986 **Mike Massey** worked six months on a construction brigade in Nicaragua, where, he says, he fell in love with another brigadista, Claudia Green (U. Michigan '86). Returning to Ann Arbor, he finished his Ph.D. Meanwhile,

Claudia graduated with a master of city planning degree from MIT, and the two were wed in Doylestown, Pa., June 30, 1992. After rescuing a black lab-German shepherd mutt (Chimbo) from the pound, the couple lived briefly in Boston. For the last two years they have been in San Juan, P.R., where Mike is a postdoc researcher in the U. Puerto Rico Physics Dept. and Claudia works in the planning department of the Employment Training Office for the municipality of San Juan. This summer they'll move back to Boston, where Mike will start a master's degree program at MIT's Media Lab. E-mail: m_massey@upr1.upr.clu.edu. ▼ One of the pieces **Robert Spano** conducted with the Louisville Symphony Orch. this winter was "Denouement," by former conservatory faculty member Conrad Cummings. Robert was the subject of a question-and-answer interview in the December issue of *Flute Talk*, "Trading Flute for Baton," by Kathleen Chastain, teacher of wind chamber music and flute at Oberlin. He is associate professor of conducting at Oberlin and directs Oberlin's Opera Theater.

1984 In June **Barb Distler** graduated with her doctorate in clinical psychology (Psy.D.) from the Illinois Sch. of Professional Psychology in Chicago. Since then she's been working as a psychologist—first as assistant, now as director—of the counseling center of Chicago's Sch. of the Art Inst. She also teaches Hebrew school and does her own art part time. Address: 401 W. Fullerton, Chicago, IL 60614. Telephone: (312) 477-7000. ▼ **Phebe Dodyk** and Adam Kirshner '92 say they are "happily living in northern New Mexico." Phebe is a nurse practitioner at the Taos County Health Dept., and Adam is a ski instructor in the winter and farms in the summer. Address: P.O. Box 10, Arroyo Seco, NM 87514. ▼ After a year in South Korea **Valerie Flocco** returned to the states to attend Temple U. Law Sch. She is a third-year-student litigation associate with Morgan, Lewis & Bockius. Valerie lives in Philadelphia with Marvin Cropper, her partner of four years, and Danu, their 9-year-old black Lab mix. Address: 912 Waverly St., Philadelphia, PA 19147. ▼ **Michael Hollinger** was profiled in the Philadelphia *Chestnut Hill Local* newspaper Nov. 4 on the occasion of his play *An Empty Plate in the Cafe du Boeuf* being given a reading at the Philadelphia Festival Theatre (PFT) the next day. He is PFT's literary manager and associate producing director. Besides writing plays and teaching playwriting Michael writes program notes, runs the staged reading and education programs, and writes grant proposals. ▼ A son, Colin Nicholas, was born to **John Curtis** and his wife, Shawna, Feb. 22. John has taken a new job as a reference librarian for Baldwin-Wallace Coll. The family lives in Brunswick, Ohio. ▼ This winter the *New York Times* ran an article

about **Jeffrey H. Mills** and his attraction to "Star Trek" that was moved across the country in syndication. Jeffrey, a self-employed graphic designer and marketing-communication consultant, teaches, writes, and lectures about the various "Star Trek" television series and movies. He began talking about the cultural relevance of "Star Trek" when he taught an ExCo course as an Oberlin student. ▼ In January **Ben Pranger** was artist-in-residence at the Kohler plumbing company in Kohler, Wis. A Chicago resident, Ben has had many recent solo and group shows in the Chicago area, including ones at the Perimeter Gallery, MWMWM, and the Chicago Cultural Center. Reviewing his show at the Perimeter Gallery, a critic for *Artforum* wrote: "Ben Pranger wistfully transforms found objects with an eye toward making them reveal poetic resonances. He changes contexts, proposes absurd usages, descends to puns, and creates curious conglomerations, all while discovering the frailties of literal meanings and systems." His *Traveling Bag*, for example, is a battery-driven battered suitcase that moves in circles across the floor. His work was also recently reviewed in *ARTnews*, the *Chicago Tribune*, the *Chicago Reader*, *Art in America*, and the *Chicago Sun-Times*. ▼ **Melissa Ritter** married Sunil Reddy June 5 and June 12. Hindu and Protestant ceremonies were performed. Melissa has her own financial-planning practice in Chicago and is affiliated with Mass Mutual and MML Investor Services. ▼ **Michael Rossotto** graduated from Stanford Law Sch. in 1992 and spent the next year as a staff attorney in the Seattle office of the Government Accountability Project (GAP), investigating claims and defending whistle blowers from the U.S. Forest Service, Alyeska Pipeline Co., and Hanford Nuclear Reservation. In August he left GAP to become executive director of Save Our Wild Salmon, a coalition of 40 commercial fishing, sport fishing, and local, state, and national environmental groups working to save the wild salmon of the Pacific Northwest. He spends most of his spare time hanging out with his 6-year-old daughter, Emily, and playing in the Cascade and Olympic mountains. Address: 320 NW 53rd St., Seattle, WA 98107. Telephone: (206) 622-2904.

1985 "We have a daughter!" say **Kate Baker** and **Roark Miller**. Born March 20, Maddalena Rae Baker is the granddaughter of Darrell and Linda Baker '57. "She's a peaceful easy baby, and her brother Sam is infatuated with her," says Roark. The family lives in Alamogordo, N.Mex. ▼ **Christopher J. Carney** has been appointed director of strategic operations in managed health care at Glaxo, a pharmaceutical firm. Since Christopher joined Glaxo as a sales representative in November 1985, he

1985 CONTINUED

has held positions as area account manager in managed health care, manager of managed health-care programs, and southern regional director of managed health care. He lives with his wife, Cindy, and daughter, Olivia, in Raleigh, N.C. ▼ New York City resident **Andy Cemelli**, recently retired from the steering committee of Oberlin's LGB alumni group, calls himself "a theater major who couldn't stay away from the Computing Center." He's now a systems engineer for WordPerfect's Macintosh software, covering the eastern U.S. "While I was gambling in Las Vegas, we were purchased by Novell," Andy says, "—last time I go on vacation and assume the world will be the same when I get back." ▼ **Jaclyn Geller** is beginning her Ph.D. in English literature at New York U. She lives on the upper west side of Manhattan with her boyfriend, a writer. ▼ **Jeffrey Gordon** has been appointed a press secretary for the budget director of the state of New York. He leaves three years of working on child-welfare policy for the governor's budget office in Albany. Jeffrey lives above the Amazing Wok restaurant, at 267 Lark St. #3, Albany, NY 12210. E-mail: bdgord1%budget@cunym.cuny.edu. ▼ New York City-based pianist, composer, and arranger **Lafayette Harris, Jr.**,



Harris

is touring with his own group. He has performed throughout the U.S. and Europe with some of the top names in jazz, including Max Roach, Dizzy Gillespie, Jon Hendricks, Stanley Turrentine, and Lionel Hampton. As musical director for the hit show *Songs My Mother Taught Me*, his collaboration with Melba Moore helped launch a national tour for the Tony-award-winning vocalist. He has also recorded with Slide Hampton, Barbara Morrison, and John Gordon, among others. He released a solo recording, *Lafayette Is Here*, on the Muse label last year. ▼ "Sometimes life moves pretty fast," says **Abram Kaplan**. "My biggest news is that I married Carol Goland in June 1993; she's an adjunct professor in sociology/anthropology at Denison and looking. (She got her Ph.D. two years before I did, so she's the one who deserves a job!)" Attending the wedding were his parents, Stephen '57 and Rachel Bach '58 Kaplan; Doug Kinsey '57; Carol's sister Susan Goland '75; best man Laurence LaFond '85; Oberlin associate professor of computer science Bob Geitz; and former OC reference librarian Kerry Langan. In November Abe finished his Ph.D. in city and regional planning at UNC-Chapel Hill; on New Year's day he and Carol arrived in Granville, Ohio. Telephone: (614) 587-0248. E-mail: kaplan@cc.denison.edu. ▼ **Audie Klotz** is assistant professor in the Political Science Dept. at U. Illinois at Chicago. "I am

trying," she says, "to avoid being a typical stressed-out junior academic." Telephone: (312) 413-2187. E-mail: u27903@uicvm.uic.edu. ▼ Pianist **Dan Loschen** attends graduate school in the Jazz Dept. at the New England Conservatory. He studies with Paul Bley and Cecil McBee, among others, and still lives and gigs in the Boston area. Address: 2 Brown Terrace #1R, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130. Telephone: (617) 524-3998. ▼ A year and a half after moving from Chicago to Macon, Ga., with their newborn daughter, Lucy, **Jessie Meltsner** and Brian Britt '86 have adjusted to a new kind of life—relishing the camellias, chasing after a rambunctious toddler, and visiting Atlanta as often as possible. Brian is an assistant professor of religion and philosophy at Wesleyan Coll. in Macon; he received his Ph.D. from the U. Chicago Divinity Sch. in 1993. Jessie does psychological testing and evaluations for a local psychologist. The couple has found some kindred spirits in Macon, but they keep in touch with Obies, too. In Boston last December they helped **Brian Dewan** celebrate the success of his new album, *Brian Dewan Tells the Story*. Address: 3490 Ridge Ave., Macon, GA 31204. Telephone: (912) 474-8833. ▼ **Jean Anne Miller** married Paul Mariner (and changed her name) June 12, 1993, in the mountains of Colorado. Obies at the wedding and reception: Jeanne Walton and William Lange, both '51; Joan Walton '55 and Richard Alan Miller '52; Lucia Miller Collins '82; Ralf Mehlhorn '83; David Tolland '84; Eric Miller '88, and Juliette Stumpf '89. Jean and Paul live in Austin, Tex., where Paul is an environmental consultant and Jean chairs the math department at St. Stephen's School and freelances as a writer/editor/reader for Holt, Rinehart and Winston. Jean has finished her first and second road races: the Austin Half Marathon in January and the Austin Marathon in March. "It's a little farther than swimming the 1650," she says, "but it is still great to be in such good shape!" Address: 1121 B Hollow Creek Dr., Austin, TX 78704. E-mail: JAMMariner@AOL.COM. ▼ Sixteen years after meeting him in 10th grade, **Diane Moy** says she "happily married my high-school chum Eric Schaefer Jan. 27 in a blitz of a ceremony in Las Vegas." Diane is a features editor at the *New York Daily News*; Eric is pursuing a doctorate in mechanical engineering. ▼ Songwriter, singer, arranger, studio technician, and keyboardist **Amy X Neuburg** is recording her second album. Reviewing her first album, *Songs 91 to 85*, *Keyboard Magazine* (December 1993) wrote: "Neuburg is a major player . . . a unique voice in the true sense of the word." *Songs 91 to 85*, on Racer Records, includes some pieces recorded at Oberlin. Amy performs with her electronic band,



Neuburg

has toured Europe, has recorded with Robert Ashley's opera *Improvement* (which will tour Japan in September), and is resident composer with AXIS Dance Troupe. ▼ **Edna Fleischacker Wallace** has been contracting as a technical writer and editor in the Silicon Valley for three years. She and her husband, Paul, have "two beautiful, bright children," Edna says, "Rebecca, 4, and David, 1. I also write articles for the national magazine *ACME*."



Wallace

1986 **Jennifer Brady** was certified to teach high-school English last year, taught computers to middle-school students this year, and expects to be teaching 4th grade in a Catholic school next year. "Info on teaching jobs in Boston much appreciated," she says; "as you can see, I'm flexible." Jennifer says she is becoming increasingly excited and informed about Internet use in classrooms and about increasing computer access to the "disenfranchised." "So if you know of cool things, pass them along, or if you would like to know about cool things (like how to hook up your classroom through E-mail with checkpoints in the Iditarod), ask." E-mail: jbrady@world.std.com. ▼ Rutgers Ph.D. candidate **Arnold Victor Coonin** has been awarded a Fulbright to do archival research in Italy on 15th-century Florentine sculpture. He'll be in Florence for the 1994-95 academic year and says, "I would love to see any Obies passing through." E-mail (good through August): coonin@eden.rutgers.edu. ▼ Shortly after moving into their new home north of San Francisco **Lis Thompson Fuchs** and her husband, Michael, became parents of David Michael Fuchs, born July 27, Lis's birthday. "You can't ask for a better birthday present," she says. ▼ **Adam Greene** and his wife, Sylvane, have a newborn daughter named Celina Rose Greene. Her sister, Mahala, is 3. Address: 135 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, NY 11238. ▼ **Anne Gross** is the music director for the African Children's Choir, which is touring North America. The choir—26 underprivileged Kenyan children—will be in concert throughout the western U.S. and Canada until spring 1995. Address: FITW, P.O. Box 250, Arlington, WA 98223. Telephone: 1-800-394-4647. ▼ **Karen Hosmer** joined the Albany Symphony as principal oboist in September. Other Obies in the ASO include Gene Marie Green '60, second oboist; and Elizabeth "Liz" Jones '83 in the first-violin section. Karen is working on her D.M.A. from Temple U., hoping, she says, for a June 1995 graduation. ▼ **Tom Kangas** lives and works in Columbus, Ohio. He has what he calls "a sort of ethnic dance band" with his wife, Jennifer; his sister and her husband; and a friend. Business manager for the

Ohio State U. Press, he will soon complete an accounting degree. ▼ Orange County *Register* reporter **Carol Masciola** says she has survived the California fires and earthquake. Address: 510 Glenneyre St., #5, Laguna Beach, CA 92651. ▼ **Jeremy Millstone** received his law degree in May 1993 from U. California-Davis. Having passed the bar exam, he is employed with McDonough, Holland & Allen, a Sacramento law firm, where he specializes in litigation. After taking the bar exam in July, he and his wife, Marian Fowler Millstone '85, camped and backpacked in Alaska for five weeks. "No bear encounters," he says, "but we did cross paths with the world's largest porcupine. The highlight of the trip was a day's hike alongside a glacier. From the top we could see all of Alaska and then some." Marian has completed her course work for a master's degree in exercise science, also at UC-Davis. Working on her thesis, she hopes to finish by summer. She is an exercise specialist for the UC-Davis Medical Center. The couple recently bought their first house, in Davis. "It's unbelievably beautiful, quaint," says Jeremy. In their large garden Marian grows veggies and flowers, and Jeremy cultivates hot peppers and berries. The couple spends most of their spare time playing squash. Jeremy also tracks and researches stocks for an investment club he has started. "I dream about starting my own mutual fund some day," he says. ▼ On July 31, 1993, **Jennifer Lyle Morgan** and Herman Lee Bennett were married in Sag Harbor, Long Island. (Jennifer now goes by the last name of Morgan-Bennett.) Lisa Waller '87 was a bridesmaid, and the wedding music was played by Sidney Whalen and Peter Bergman, both '88. Other Obies at the wedding were: Kimberly Roberson '85; **Claudia Canale-Parola**; Rachel Filene Seidman and Matthew Blumenfeld, both '87; and Mary Esther Malloy and Keith Yazir, both '88. The couple lives in Baltimore, where Herman is a visiting faculty member at Johns Hopkins U. and Jennifer is in the final stretches of a dissertation in history for Duke U. Address: 3925 Beech Ave., #112, Baltimore, MD 21211. Telephone: (410) 243-4662. ▼ **Erik Nelson** is a production artist at the *Tab*, a weekly newspaper covering Boston and suburbs. In his free time he participates in poetry reading and storytelling at open readings, coffee houses, and public-access television shows in the Boston area. He has been a feature performer at the Stone Soup Poets, the Cafe Moka Poetry Reading Series, and the Bookcellar Cafe Storytelling Series. He has also been a volunteer assistant at Sharing the Fire, an annual conference on storytelling done by the League for the Advancement of New England Storytelling. ▼ **Maria del Pilar O'Cadiz's** daughter Gala Zvrayya was born July 29, 1993. Her daughter Mayahuel is 3, and her son, Roman, is 5. Maria is a doctoral candidate at UCLA in social

sciences and comparative education. She plans to finish her dissertation on educational reform in São Paulo, Brazil, by spring 1995. Her first publication, "Literacy Training and Social Movements in Brazil: A Narrative," in *Education and Social Change in Latin America*, Carolos Torres, editor, is due out this year. For the past year Maria has been working with inner-city Hispanic children as coordinator of academic-enrichment programs of the Boyle Heights Elementary Inst. ▼ After relocating to the U.S. from India in early 1993, **Deborah Schwartz** and her husband, Sayan Bhattacharjee, have settled permanently in the Washington, D.C., area. Sayan has joined Disclosure, Inc. as a product manager, and Deborah is resuming her job search. Address: 4515 Willard Ave., Apt. 1607S, Chevy Chase, MD 20815. Telephone: (301) 907-3214. ▼ **Wallis Sholar** and Terri Walton were married July 16, 1993, in a private ceremony at Boston's City Hall. Among those attending the January 1 newlywed party at the Harvard Faculty Club were Steve and Beth Greene Foreman '84, Dan Loschen '85, **Cathy Boller**, **Angie Joachim**, **Ingrid Kohlmeyer**, **Kabin Thomas**, and Julie Eastin and Brian Walton, both '92. Dan played jazz piano as guests arrived, and after a toast by Kabin, friends and family danced to the music of Boston calypso and world-beat band The Search Party. Wallis is a data analyst at

the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Research Center of Harvard Medical Sch. and McLean Hosp. in Belmont, Mass., and Terri is a technical editor at Information Resources, Inc. in Waltham, Mass. ▼ In 1988, leaping out of Yale's graduate program in artificial intelligence after two years, **Jack Sieber** began a year of driving around the country visiting friends. Eventually planting himself in Boston, he lives in a co-operative house of six, including at one time or another Jeannie Quinn and Sarah Schenck, both '84; Jennifer Brady '86; and Nancy Long '85. For the past two and a half years he has worked for a nonprofit environmental-research and consulting firm, the Tellus Inst., creating computer-based models to aid scientific and policy-research and analysis—"stuff," he says, "like sustainable energy and water-resource use, solid-waste management, and greenhouse-gas emissions." Address: 24 Dearborn Rd., Medford, MA 02155. Telephone: (617) 666-9849. ▼ In September **Jonathan Turner** received a first-place award from the National Newspaper Assoc. (NNA) for best coverage of energy issues, specifically low-level radioactive-waste disposal. Jonathan is a reporter and reviewer for the Litchfield County (Conn.) *Times*, which won the 1993 NNA first-place award for general excellence in the weekly division. Jonathan and his wife moved in November to 353 Schraffts Dr.,



I've Been Thinking

Albert Borgmann tells us, in *Crossing the Postmodern Divide*, that the coming of postmodernism signals the death of individualism and universalism as viable philosophies. That is, seriously thinking individuals are ceasing to believe that they should be heroes, or that there could ever be one code of conduct or belief that could work for all people.

To the extent that this new group-oriented pluralism really exists, an unfortunate caveat seems in order: we're also rejecting relativism, one of the best mindset gifts that modernism could give us (along with that of authenticity). Many of us believe in working together, and we've rejected One-Way approaches. But we still believe in the essential "correctness" of whatever ideological enclaves—spiritual, political, professional or social—we've most recently joined (including worldly wise enclaves claiming no opinions, only prejudices). When we think this

way, we are contributing to fight-or-flight, competitive consciousness in much the same way as do Shiite guerrillas or Serbian ethnic warriors; the difference is a matter of degree.

Of course the problem with relativism—the belief that truth is relative, so that no serious worldview is better than any other—is that it feels bloodless, neurotic, non-visceral. But in my own life, to the degree that I accept the notion that while needed comfort and well-being may lie in ideology or dogma, truth does not—that truth lies only in grounded emotion; deep or lasting intuition or empathy; and, at times, in bias-acknowledging science—I am aware of a relativism that is visceral. There is peace and health in that too; eventually, I think, that sort of letting go becomes a stronger foundation than holding on.

—William Faber '68

Please send submissions for this column to the alumni editor at the address given below the masthead on page 2, and mark your entry "I've Been Thinking."

1986 CONTINUED

#309, Waterbury, CT 06705. ▼ **Bruce Whitney** has been accepted for graduate studies at Antioch New England Graduate Sch., where he will pursue an M.S. degree in organization and management. Bruce is a member of the National Assoc. for the Education of Young Children and directs the Community Day Care Center in Putney, N.H.

1987 **Mark Bousek** and Tanya Uyeda '88 were married in New Mexico in July 1993. See Tanya's note. ▼ **Kelly Dwyer**, visiting assistant professor of creative writing at Oberlin, read from her novel, *The Tracks of Angels*, Feb. 14. The reading, sponsored by Oberlin's Creative Writing Program, was followed by a reception in the Co-op Bookstore. A recent review in the *Washington Post Book World* praised Kelly's "small but fine" book. Kelly describes it as being about "a young woman who's lost all traditional support

structures—family, friends, religion—and who goes into a sort of a lapse, an ordeal, before she comes into her own and claims her memories." ▼ **Lyn Freundlich** has been awarded an M.S. degree in management from Antioch New England Graduate Sch. ▼ The Dec. 25 "Show" section of the *Washington Post* called The Other Opera Company—founded and run by **Debbie Grossman** and Vicki Gau '88—"the most interesting new organization" in its feature "The Year in the Arts/Classical Music" subsection "Joseph McLellan's Best & Worst." The squib cited the company's "promising production of *Così fan tutte*, *Man of La Mancha*, and *The Tender Land* . . . with virtually no budget." ▼ **Andy Kass** was sworn in as an assistant district attorney for Westchester County, N.Y., Feb. 28. Andy lives in White Plains, N.Y. ▼ **David Loren** is finishing his first year of medical school at Rush Medical Coll. His curriculum is clinically oriented and

problem based, and he says he loves it. "Is there a future in pediatrics for me?" he asks. Besides being involved locally and nationally with the American Medical Student Assoc., he runs an AIDS-education program at the school. For his last summer before clinical clerkships, he'll be in California at Brandies Bardin Inst.—an intensive Jewish-studies program—and then work as a tour guide driving foreign tourists all over the USA. "Guess who else is here at Rush: Abbie Roth '90." Address: 871548 W. Harrison St., Chicago, IL 60607. Telephone: (312) 942-0933. E-mail: DAHVEED@aol.com. ▼ **Sarah Cox Marshall** received her Ph.D. in clinical psychology in October and is completing a two-year postdoc in neuropsychology at the U. California-Davis Medical Center. Husband Nick Marshall '86 is in his third year at UC-Davis and expects to receive his Ph.D. soon. The couple's first child, Max, was born Dec. 8. ▼ Mezzosoprano **Nancy Mayer** sang

ASOC Visitors Bring the Arts to Campus this Spring

By Midge Wood Brittingham '60

Alumni in the arts—dance, theater, poetry, literature, and film—formed the roster of this spring's ASOC (Alumni in Service to Oberlin College) visitors.

On March 31 *Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind*, written and directed by **Greg Allen** '84, played in Oberlin's Wilder Main Lounge. But that wasn't the show's first performance at Oberlin. Although *Too Much Light*—performed by Greg's theater troupe, the Neo-Futurists—opened in December 1988 at Chicago's Stage Left Theater, the show had its origins in Harkness Nightclub in fall 1984 when Greg returned to Oberlin after graduation to hang out with friends and direct three shows. In its sixth run—making it possibly the longest-running original show in Chicago's history—it now has its own 126-seat theater, the Neo-Futurarium, on Chicago's North Side. It also played Off-Broadway in 1993 at Joseph Papp's Public Theater. The show was performed originally at 11:30 at night with patrons paying a random admission of \$1 times the roll of a six-sided die. (The idea, Greg admits, stems from a Harkness Nightclub tradition, which the group followed for the recent Oberlin performance.) Over the years 23 Neo-Futurists have created over 1500 plays and performed the show—which is 30 plays performed in 60 minutes—over 400 times for nearly 28,000 people. The plays include original Italian Futurists plays and new plays. "The show itself says Oberlin all over it," Greg says. "The plays aim to raise strong personal, social, or political issues while still being entertaining . . . Everyone leaves both thinking about what they've experienced and, hopefully, feeling a little closer to the community around them. For me, that's what Oberlin was all about."

Stephanie Skura of Seattle is considered one of the most innovative choreographers in American contemporary dance, and two of the four members of her company, Cranky De-

stroyers, are Oberlin grads **Gaelen Hanson** '90 and **Lionel Popkin** '92. The company performed in Oberlin April 1 and 2 in Hall Auditorium at the invitation of the Theater and Dance Program. They danced the Midwest premiere of *Into the North Canoe*, described this way by Wilma Salisbury, Cleveland *Plain Dealer* dance critic: "Made up of disconnected vignettes, the strange work began like a rondo Between recurrences of the rondo theme, the intensely focused dancers did solos, duets and ensemble phrases based on quirky human and animal behaviors Besides dancing, the performers spoke and vocalized Lionel Popkin . . . acted out an amusing pas de deux Gaelen Hanson . . . did a hilarious laughing solo, then lamented that she could not speak French." Gaelen majored in dance at Oberlin and received an advanced diploma in dance and performance from the Center for New Dance Development in Arnhem, Netherlands, where she first met Skura. Popkin received his Oberlin dance degree with high honors and has danced in various venues around Seattle. He is also the administrative director for Cranky Destroyers.

As part of the African-American alumni reunion April 8-10, and at the invitation of the African-American Studies Department, **Kate Rushin** '73 read from her first collection of poetry, *The Black Back-Ups*, (Firebrand Books, Ithaca, New York, 1993). The title poem commemorates African-American women, whose work is often taken for granted. Kate is herself an activist in communities of color and with women's groups in greater Boston. She has spent seven years as a poet-in-the-schools in Massachusetts, 10 years as a member of the New Words Bookstore Collective, and seven years in women's community radio. Women-of-color, feminist, and lesbian and gay communities have supported her work, and Kate says the related network of bookstores, presses, newspapers, and activist organizations are what made publication of her first book possible. Kate has taught and lectured on black women's literature and creative writing at Brown University, MIT, and the University of Massachusetts. As a theater and communications major at Oberlin, she was active in WOBC, Abusua, Nommo, and the Psuekay Repertoire Experience, an experimental black student theater

the role of Zerlina in *Don Giovanni* at Boston's Jordan Hall in September. According to the *Boston Globe* she "contributed a captivating, substantial performance of Zerlina, singing with a compact voice of perfect equilibrium." Nancy also performs with her newly formed three-member medieval ensemble, Syzygy. The group gave its first concert, a program of Portuguese poetry and music, in December at Harvard U. When not making music, Nancy says, she and her boyfriend, Jonathan, make their living as superintendents of an apartment building in downtown Boston. Address: 62 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02108. ▼ **David and Christina Kalbous McGarvey** announce the birth of Benjamin David McGarvey Mar. 5. Christina has left her job as a research analyst for the Australian Embassy to care for him. David recently completed an M.A. in teaching at Johns Hopkins U., and is continuing to pursue a Ph.D. in chemistry there. Address: 9487

Sohap Ln., Columbia, MD 21045. ▼ **Sean McGinley** travelled in Italy two weeks last summer, and spent three weeks in South Africa over Christmas. He started a new job Jan. 1 as a law clerk to Chief Judge Charles Haden of the federal district court for the southern district of West Virginia. ▼ In her fourth year in Seattle as a public eye—working as an investigator for the Public Defender's Office—**Kathy Pickle** wishes the Ultimate Frisbee fields weren't so moldy, but otherwise is enjoying the Northwest and would be happy, she says, to have visitors. Address: 102 NW 82nd. St., Seattle, WA 98117. ▼ **Eva Schlesinger** is one of the illustrators for *The Harvest Co-op Cookbook*, in which she also has a recipe. Her first published recipe appears in the award-winning *Boston Cooks*. When not cooking or illustrating, Eva is a freelance book reviewer, and is writing a young-adult novel. ▼ **Mina Takahashi** married Marco Breuer Nov. 24 in New York

City. Stanley Jenkins '85 performed the outdoor ceremony in Hudson River Park. Mina is director of Dieu Donn  Papermill, a nonprofit studio making handmade paper, and can be reached there: 3 Crosby St., New York, NY 10013. Telephone: (212) 226-0573. ▼ "I surrender! I give up!" says **Brian E. Vaughn**. "After two months of waiting for my apartment to be repaired following the big earthquake, I have finally had it, and am getting the hell out of Sherman Oaks." He has moved to Brentwood, where he is director of choral activities at the Brentwood Sch. in L.A. and music director at the Woodland Hills Community Church (UCC). Address: 11744 Darlington Ave., #104, Los Angeles, CA 90049. Telephone: (310) 820-3676 "That's 820-DORM, if that helps :-)," says Brian. ▼ **Erika Zucker** graduated from Northeastern U. Sch. of Law in May 1993. She says she enjoyed an unusually warm and sunny summer in San Francisco through

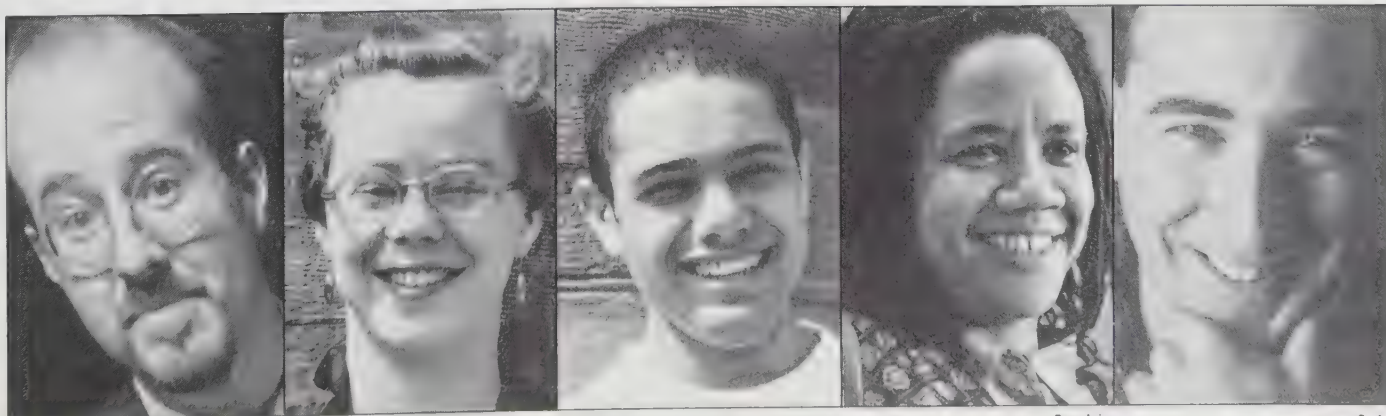
group. She also worked on *Rain*, the black literary magazine. Kate first read her poems in public at a soul session her freshman year, when Afro House (now known as Afrikan Heritage House, in Lord-Saunders residence hall) was in Baldwin. She received her M.F.A. in creative writing from Brown this May.

The English Department sponsored a visit April 8 by the 1993 Pulitzer Prize winner for criticism, **Michael Dirda** '70, writer and editor for the *Washington Post Book World*. The son of a steelworker, Michael grew up in Lorain, Ohio, and had never been to Oberlin until he enrolled at the College. In his talk he recalled that the first English course he took was 17th-Century Metaphysical Poetry, taught by Andrew Bongiorno '23. He had received a D+ on his first essay but, after a semester of hard work (he was the lone freshman in the upper-level course), Bongiorno told him he had written one of the class's best finals. In his long view Michael credits Mathis Szykowski, professor of French, with teaching him how to write. Michael received the B.A. with highest honors in English in 1970, and the next year taught English in Marseilles, France, on a Fulbright grant. From 1971 to 1975 he studied comparative literature at Cornell, receiving an M.A. in 1974 and a Ph.D. in 1977. While working on his dissertation at American University, he met Marian Peck '72, who later became his wife. Teaching part time, he also did freelance translating and editing. When he offered to do book reviews for the *Washington Post*, he won the attention of the editor, and after a few freelance reviews, he was offered a permanent reviewing job. He still reviews regularly for *Book World*, where he is now an editor, writing about a wide variety of

books, including biography, history, children's literature, thrillers, and science fiction.

The General Faculty Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Concerns Committee sponsored a visit to Oberlin April 11 by **Kermit Cole** '86, film director, while he was in Cleveland for the showing of his first film at the Cleveland International Film Festival. In Kermit's documentary, *Living Proof: HIV and the Pursuit of Happiness*, he goes behind the photographs of Carolyn Jones's photo project—Living Proof—on people living with AIDS and HIV. He allows the audience to meet (through film) the people in the photo show, to hear their stories, and to see how the disease changed their lives—for almost all of them, in a sense, for the better. The message in Kermit's film is that life is a gift, and the closer one is to losing it, the more one values it. Kermit left Oberlin after one year, recognizing his obsessive interest in film, but not knowing where it would lead him. After a year at New York University School of Film, he struck out on his own to make a documentary. Earning his living as a grip, he took the suggestion of a friend that he look into the Jones photo project. He found it perfect, he says, for what he was trying to do: make a film that would make a difference.

MIDGE WOOD BRITTINGHAM is the executive director of the Oberlin College Alumni Association.



Allen

Hanson

Popkin

Rushin

Cole

1987 CONTINUED

library windows while studying for the bar exam. Recently admitted to the California bar, she says she hopes that by the time this note is published that she will have a job as a public-interest lawyer. "All hints, suggestions, and job offers respectfully considered," she says. Address: 1249 4th Ave., #6, San Francisco, CA 94122.

1988 After a brief stint at a federal clearing house on higher education, **Beth Allen** has landed a job at the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF), the largest lesbian and gay political organization in the U.S. "We have a PAC (which distributed over \$800,000 last election cycle), a staff of lobbyists, a public-education program, a grassroots network, and, most recently, a special campaign designed to help local activists defeat antigay ballot measures this fall," she says. Beth is the deputy director of membership at HRCF. She lives in Washington, D.C., with her partner, Steph Lovelady '89—who is attending U. Maryland on fellowship to get her Ph.D. in comparative literature—and her good friend Kris Raab '89. ▼ To her great surprise, she says, **Elizabeth Baldwin** is still in Japan, where her nickname is *Genki Gaijin*, which means energetic/enthusiastic alien. "This is the last year for sure!" she says, noting that she has said that for the last three years. Elizabeth says she is suffering "a noticeable loss of vocabulary and a difficulty recognizing American cultural references" and asks, "Can anyone help?" Address: 1295 Nagashima, Hamakita, Shizuoka, 434 Japan. Fax: (81) 53-586-6463. ▼ **Felice Belman** has moved from New Hampshire to Virginia and is covering city hall for the Newport News *Daily Press*. Address: 2282 Criston Dr., Newport News, VA 23602. Telephone: (804) 249-8962. ▼ **Melissa Lutz Blouin** and her husband, Chuck, are the new parents of a baby boy, Emile, born Dec. 30, 1993. Melissa is an editor for the *Northwest Arkansas Times*, and Chuck is an artist. Address: 1525 Roberts Rd., Fayetteville, Ark., 72701. ▼ **Andrew Chalsma** has married Amy Lockwood '89. See Amy's class note. ▼ The Other Opera Company, founded and run by Debbi Grossman '87 and **Vicki Gau**, produced *Hansel and Gretel* in March, with Ellen Myers '91 as the Dew Fairy, Roberta Found Campbell Mosier '74 as the Witch; technician Paul Mirel '90; and orchestra members Laura Doty '92, David Hobbie '90, John McComb (Artist Diploma '93), and Andrea Vercoe '92. Ellen was in the ensemble when the company produced *The Tender Land* in December. Other Obies in that production included Roberta as Ma Moss and Joel Sorensen '89 as Martin. *The Threepenny Opera* is the company's June offering. ▼ **Jill Gray** was married Aug. 14 to Aaron Milenski, and uses Milenski as her last name. The couple lives in Cleveland. Aaron works

for Oberlin's admissions office, and Jill is a tutoring coordinator at the Cleveland Inst. of Art. After living in Oberlin for a year, Jill says she is "glad to be living in the real world again" even though she thinks all the new cafés in Oberlin are "great and long overdue." ▼ **Jenny Heitler-Klevens** finished her master's of public health degree at Temple U. in December and started working for Philadelphia's Family Planning Council in January. She is a training specialist developing courses on HIV and substance abuse. Jenny and her husband, **David**, help run the Folk Factory Coffeehouse with Bruce (former OC assistant professor of mathematics) and Linda Pollack-Johnson. David and Jenny continue to perform as Two of a Kind. Address: 130 Nippon St., Philadelphia, PA 19119. ▼ **Jim Kingdon** is living on a commune and working by modem for Cygnus Support, which sells support services for free software. He has also been playing in gay and lesbian symphonic bands, first in Minneapolis and now in Washington, D.C. ▼ Having graduated from Cornell Law Sch. in May 1993, **Todd Lang** is a staff attorney with Ohio State Legal Services, whose offices serve the indigent people of Ohio's Appalachian region. "I get to work with Obies throughout our branch offices," he says, including Margaret Eglington '50, John Bates '65, John Pembroke '77, Richard Wolfson '81, and William Vodrey '87. "Our benevolent despot (executive director)," Todd says, is Tom Weeks '71. "I love my job and find it very rewarding. . . . I haven't had a speeding ticket in almost three years." Address: 1184 Muirwood, Zanesville, OH 43701. ▼ **Job Lawrence** and Dana Wang '89 were married June 12, 1993 in Maine. Attending the ceremony were **Jon Bernard** and Karl Debreczeny '90. After working for a few years at the Stanford U. Medical Center, Job went back to school and received a master's degree from the Harvard U. Graduate Sch. of Arts and Sciences in regional studies—East Asia in May 1993. In August the couple moved to Japan, where they live in the town of Noichi, near the city of Kochi on the island of Shikoku. Address: 2706 Nishino, Noichi-cho, Kami-gun, Kochi-ken, 781-52 Japan. Telephone: 01-81-8875-6-3148. Fax: 01-81-8875-6-0576. ▼ **John Richardson** and **Anastasia Easterday** were married July 31, 1993, in Kansas City, Mo. Oberlinians at the wedding included **Candace Ellman**, who played oboe; **Tom Kurt**, who was best man and played piano; **Nick Street**; Munis Faruqui, Molly Murphy, and Greg Rigdon, all '90; and Gabriella Richardson '95, a groom's attendant. John and Stace are in Paris completing research for their dissertations. No name changes. ▼ **Tanya Uyeda** and Mark Bousek '87 were married July 24, 1993, in Placitas, N.M. Oberlinians attending the ceremony were Mark Johnson, Carl Lamborg, and Leanna Mottern Newcomb, all '86; Tom Henderson '87; best man **Orestes Delatorre**; maid-of-honor **Kristen Herbert**; **Charles Newcomb**; **Martha Prinz**; and John Biebel '89.

Mark and Tanya live in Denver, where Mark, having left his high-pressure job at National Public Radio in Washington, D.C., is the news engineer and producer for KCFR—Colorado Public Radio. With a Japanese Ministry of Education Scholarship (Monbusho) Tanya entered the master's program in art conservation at the Tokyo U. of Fine Arts and Music this spring. She recently completed two full-time internships at the Denver Art Museum and the Rocky Mountain Regional Conservation Center. Address: 1730 E. Asbury Ave., Denver, CO 80210.

▼ **Jonathan D. Westreich** graduated in May from law school at American U. He was the senior articles editor on the *Administrative Law Journal*, whose recent volume includes Jonathan's article on arms-export regulations.

1989 **Steve Espinola** is living in Brooklyn and working toward an MFA in musical-theater composition at NYU's Tisch Sch. of the Arts. As the Lookalikes, he and Alex Wolf '89 recently completed a cassette concept album featuring their songs; it's called *Life-o-phobia*. "My hair is now florescent orange," Steve says. "My cat, Purrcity, looks more like a bowling ball every day. In my spare time I make musical instruments out of tennis rackets and umbrellas. I'm no longer on Prozac. I'm not in love. Sometimes I'm content, and sometimes I'm not." Address: 121 Prospect Pl., #1, Brooklyn, NY 11217. Telephone: (718) 398-7833. E-mail: spe9237@acfcluster.nyu.edu. ▼ **Beth Kolko** is finishing a Ph.D. in English at U. Texas—Austin and will be teaching at U. Wyoming in the fall. "Well, it was either Wyoming or Chicago, and I've gotten used to those blue skies of the west," she says. A co-owner in a hypertextual educational software company, Beth is seeking correspondence with Obies who have done work with computers and education, such as synchronous conferencing and using the Internet for community-education programs. "Oh, and if there are any Obies who are working with solar technology, I would really like to hear from them," she says. E-mail: beth@auden.en.utexas.edu. ▼ **Amy Lockwood** and Andrew Chalsma '88 were married Oct. 10 in Middlefield, Mass. Oberlinians at the ceremony included Chris Gittens and Marty Walters, both '87; Jordan Balter '88; **Mark** and **Pam Kirwin Adams**; **Melissa Chalsma**; **Deb Berglin**; and Katherine Sorel '90. Andrew's mother, Barbara Chalsma, is the former director of communications at Oberlin Coll. Amy and Andrew now use the last name Lockwood Chalsma (no hyphen) and live in Goffstown, N.H. ▼ Having returned to the U.S. from London and Paris, **Rodney McCoy, Jr.**, is a senior public-health educator for the New York City Dept. of Health. He is a contributing editor for *JFY*, a national black gay men's magazine. He is also working on a collection of essays and an anthology of black gay men's erotica. Address: 91 S. Portland Ave., Apt. 4, Brooklyn, NY 11217. Telephone: (718) 237-0116.

▼ **Donald D. Tatum** was elected to Oberlin City Council in November. He works for Oberlin Community Services, a private, nonprofit social-service agency. He's also a court-appointed special advocate for Lorain County Domestic Court. He's tutoring children in public schools and living with Amber Fisher '88. "Can't wait for the next reunion," he says. ▼ After graduating, **Dana Wang** worked for two years at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts as a conservation scientist and then two years at the Boston Museum of Science as an education

associate. She married Job Lawrence '88 in June 1993, and now lives in Japan. See Job's class note.

1990 Inspired, she says, by Rachel Cline's (Class of 1979) class note in the summer 1993 *OAM*, **Amy Battisti** writes that she has "no marriage plans, no kids, no new degrees, but a life that could be a stereotyped Oberlin-alum résumé": She has moved to Boston; lived in a vegetarian, consensus-run group house for two and a half years, with Rebecca Pomerantz '80; had miserable "temping"

jobs and cashiered at a food co-op while contemplating why so many of her classmates rushed to Boston after graduation; fell into a fantastic job at a Latina, feminist, collectively run adult-education center teaching Freirean ESL; and did activist work with Cultural Survival, Act Up, CISPES, and the Mass. English Plus coalition (promoting bilingualism and language rights). After three years of teaching Amy is hoping to rest that part of her brain a while and move into immigrant-rights advocacy. She would like to hear from Obies with experience

Doorstops Start Gary Roma's Film Career

By Miletta Roe '87

If you had seen this ad in the *Boston Comic News*, you might have guessed the author was an Oberlin grad: "Looking for cast-iron frog doorstops for use in a documentary film. Call Gary."

Displaying the quirky interests that often define Oberlinians, Gary Roma '87 began collecting doorstops as a teenager. His 300-plus collection and his aspirations as a filmmaker have led him to realize the dramatic possibilities of those oft-kicked, underappreciated objects in a video he recently researched and produced, *Off the Ground & Off the Wall: A Doorstop Documentary*. His frog ad caught the eye of a prominent cast-iron frog collector, later featured in the video, and of a *Boston Magazine* reporter who featured Gary in an issue of that magazine last year, describing his documentary as "obsessively weird shtick." The *Los Angeles Times* re-

cently called it an "admirably obsessive look at the uses and abuses of doorstops."

Rubber wedges, those springy things, and iron frogs are only half of what appears in Gary's video. Clips of auctions and of conversations with experts in antiques and with academics from Brandeis, Harvard, Wellesley, and Yale give life to what is hardly an inanimate subject. So do interviews with doorstop manufacturers and distributors, including the Master Caster Company and the Custom Rubber Company of Cleveland, makers of the Big Foot brand doorstop. ("Cleveland, the Akron of Ohio," is how Gene Shalit—interviewed for the video with the doorstopping rock from his *Today* show office—remembers that city in doorstop history.)

Roma cuts quickly from practicality and whimsy to the linguistic origins of the word *doorstop*, then to philosophical musings about the fate of doorstops as artifacts in a future world without doors, and to the specifics of a court case involving a violent feud over, yes, a doorstop.

Based near Boston, Gary collaborated with Michael D. Edwards, also '87, of St. Paul, who wrote and performed the score. The pair communicated by phone, alternately playing excerpts and describing scenes as work progressed.

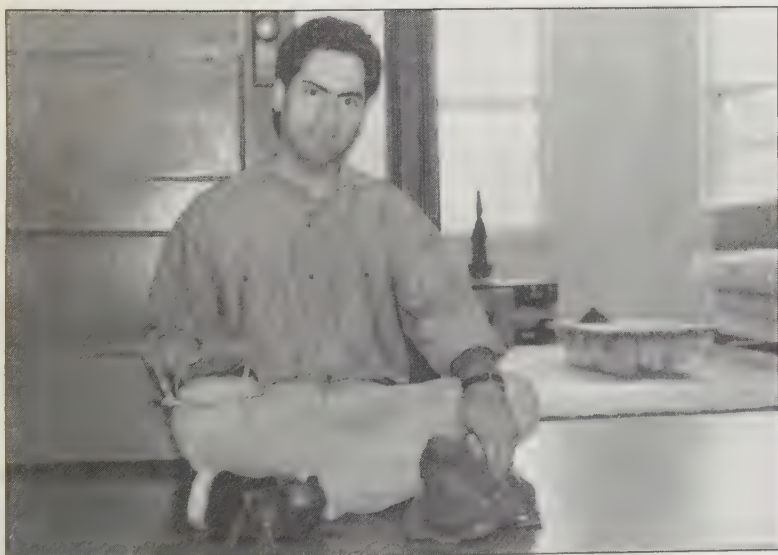
So far the video

has been screened at over a dozen festivals across the country, including the American Film Institute National Video Festival in Hollywood, the Dallas Video Festival, and the New England Film and Video Festival. Most recently it won three awards, including Best Documentary, at the Institute of Amateur Cinematographers International Film and Video Competition in Straffordshire, England.

When not working on his next documentary, *Puss in Books: Adventures of the Library Cat*—about cats that live in libraries—Gary can be seen on the comedy circuit around Boston. He began doing stand-up routines while working on his documentary, racking up more than 70 performances in the past year and a half and gaining a semifinalist berth in the 1992 Comedy Riot contest for New Englanders. He says he "just missed coming in second" (he came in first) in the fourth round of the Toastmasters International Regional Humorous Speech Contest last fall. In June he goes to the Toastmaster finals in New Brunswick, Canada. His winning routine? A pun-filled narrative, called *The Terminologist*, about making a movie based on his favorite book, the dictionary. In the performance Gary plays Arnold Schwarzenegger playing a word that travels back in time to try to prevent another word from coming into usage in the future.

Though the nature of doorstops and other terms may be daunting to consider, watch for *Off the Ground and Off the Wall* to continue opening doors for Gary Roma.

MILETA ROE is a Ph.D. candidate in comparative literature at Brandeis University.



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF GARY ROMA

Besides creating prize-winning videos and contest-winning monologues, Gary Roma—shown here with some of his doorstops—writes punning humor. Sample from his short story "Love Letters": "They exchange wedding vowels. The minister says, 'I now pronouns you man and wife.' They kiss each other on the ellipsis. 'I love you, noun forever,' he whispers. The conjugation is in tiers."

1990 CONTINUED

in the legal and social-work angles of this field. Address: 102 Salem St., No. 4, Boston, MA 02113.

▼ From August 1990 to August 1993 **Jim Blandy** worked at the Free Software Foundation (FSF) in Cambridge, Mass., developing version 19 of GNU Emacs, released in June '93. After spending fall 1993 as an intern at the Swiss Scientific Computing Center (CSCS-ETH) in Lugano, Switzerland, and passing December in Japan giving Emacs 19 seminars for the FSF, he has settled in Bloomington, Ind., where he writes gene-editing software at the Indiana U. Biology Dept. ▼ In September 1991 **Cheryl Brundage** left the Boston area to pursue what she calls her "own concept of the American dream." She has settled in Santiago de Compostela, Spain, where she makes a living as a freelance English teacher and translator. This provides her with a fluctuating income ("fortu-



Brundage

nately, it's OK to pay *mañana*," she says) and lots of free time to work on her bilingual novel and to play cello. In November and December she toured with the Xoven Orquesta de Galicia (Galician Youth Orchestra). "It rains even more in Galicia than in northern Ohio," she says. Address: C. Pelamios No. 2, 2ºJ, 15705 Santiago de Compostela, La Coruña, Spain. ▼ **Margaret Carpenter** and Rick Lohmann '77 were married Dec. 20 in Omaha. Attending the service were Carmelo Galante '82 and Dave (the Oberlin cat). Margaret and Rick play violin in the Omaha Symphony. Address: 4103 Grand Ave., Omaha, NE 68111. Telephone: (402) 457-6717. ▼ **Sheryl Cohen** recently became one of 10 winners of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Audition, having earlier placed first in the recent Metropolitan Opera New England Competition. She graduated from Boston U. in 1992 with a degree in elementary education. Sheryl's parents are Fred Cohen '57 and Susan Stone '61. ▼ **Claudia Hirsch** is the women's studies acquisitions editor at Garland Publishing, publishers of scholarly reference books. She invites manuscripts and/or book proposals at: Garland Publishing, Inc., 717 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10022. ▼ **Mary Beth Pixley** is studying at U. Wisconsin-Madison in the master's degree program for Southeast Asian Studies on a foreign-language and area-studies fellowship. She is concentrating on Indonesia and the spread of telecommunications in Southeast Asia. "Great school and great city to live in," she says. ▼ **Peter Rosenthal** is at St. Catherine's Coll., Oxford, where he is studying law, playing rugby, and, he says, "eating loads of chips."

1991 **Eliyana Adler** and Stephen Bickel '90 celebrated their wedding Aug. 2. The ceremony was performed by Oberlin Coll. chaplain Shimon Brand and attended by William Kramer '68; Michael Taller '84; Peter Mayer '86; Jonathan Freiman, Joe Karten, and Amy Schecter, all '87; Jonathan Golub and Elise Nussbaum Jacobs, both '90; **Jonathan Cohen, Aaron Freedman; Devorah Freehling; Jonathan Hammer; Craig Diamond** '93; and Kinerette Hasson and Tamar Malino, both '94. Eliyana and Steve say they "are now living in bliss and also in Cambridge, Mass., and attending graduate school." Eliyana studies Jewish history at Brandeis U., and Steve studies biology at MIT. ▼ Bay Area freelance writer **Julia R. Barton** writes about immigration, the criminal justice system, and related issues. In the spring she had an internship at the Center for Investigative Reporting, where she worked on a PBS Frontline documentary on the mining industry. The piece aired in late April. Housemate **Joshua Sarantitis** has painted several murals in the Bay Area, Julia says, and helps run a nonprofit mural-arts center in San Francisco. He is also helping create an after-school arts program in the city's housing projects. **Matt Reid**, she says, recently moved in with Josh after traveling the world. Ad-

dress: 1998 25th St., San Francisco, CA 94107. ▼ In the fall **Erika Bohn** will enter the master of science program in exercise physiology at U. Wisconsin. ▼ **Christopher Budd** and Christa Carpentiere (Hampshire Coll. '90) were married Nov. 6 at St. Peter's Church in Beaufort, S.C. Oberlinians at the wedding included Stephan Burkle '90 and **Adam Cole**. Christopher and Christa spent two years in Seattle working for Prudential Securities and American Sharecom, respectively, but have moved to Annapolis, where they will attend St. John's Coll. Graduate Inst. to pursue master's degrees. Christopher can be reached at 26 S. Monroe Rd., Annapolis, MD 21402. ▼ **Sarah Clayton** has received an M.S.W. degree from U. Pittsburgh. Living in Pittsburgh, she is working as a family therapist with sexually abused children at Western Psychiatric Inst. and Clinic. ▼ Artist **Claudia Koep**'s work was recently exhibited at the New Arts Gallery in Reading, Pa. Claudia served an internship with artist Ted Ormai last year. A correspondent for the Reading *Eagle* and *Times* describes her work in a September article: "Koeps's work, created by covering prepared paper with several layers of color and then working gestural shapes into the paint with fingers, rags, or whatever is handy, becomes a process where she methodically uncovers her inner self and unleashes a very powerful image." ▼ **Adrienne McKeown** played the female leading role, Christine, in the third national Andrew Lloyd Webber touring production of *The Phantom of the Opera*. ▼ Since graduation Latin major **Kevin McLaughlin** has been an actor/comedian in the Minneapolis area, performing improvisational comedy with Comedy Sportz Minnesota, and writing and performing sketch comedy as a founding member of Hot Dish!, which he calls "America's hottest gay comedy troupe." Kevin also has real jobs, he says, delivering pizza and singing telegrams (not simultaneously). He is happily dating, too, he says. Address: 507 Ridgewood Ave., Apt. 105, Minneapolis, MN 55403-3536. Telephone: (612) 872-6275. ▼ **Jay "Snakdaddy" Rusnak** was featured in a column, "Mike Varney's Hometown Heroes," in the January issue of *Guitar World*. "Jay's current demo tape, a collection of commercial instrumental compositions, highlights his strong sense of melody, and a fine knack for balancing lyrical solo melodies and guitar flash," according to the piece. "Jay could definitely fill a slot in a major-league rock band." Jay lives in Winfield, Ill. ▼ Washington, D.C., resident **Rachel Schwartz** has completed a master's degree in social work and works in an affordable housing facility for formerly homeless adults. The facility is named for the human-rights and educational-reform activist Anna Julia Cooper, Class of 1884. ▼ Violinist **Erika Teppo** graduated in May 1993 from the Juilliard Sch. with



Teppo

Three ways

to help send
FIELD,
the TRANSLATION SERIES,
and the new
FIELD EDITIONS SERIES
off on its next 25 years:

❖ Subscribe to FIELD magazine at \$10 for one year (\$2 off the regular price) or \$15 for two years (\$5 off the regular price)

❖ Take advantage of even better discounts on the 20-book TRANSLATION SERIES, or any of the first three books in the new poetry FIELD EDITIONS SERIES: Dennis Schmitz, *About Night*; Marianne Boruch, *Moss Burning*; Russell Edson, *The Tunnel* (Send us your address and we'll send you a catalog showing average savings of \$3-5 on paperbacks and \$5-7 on hardcovers.)

❖ Order the special, gala edition of FIELD, Number 50, for \$5 (\$1 off the regular price, postpaid).



Oberlin College Press
Rice Hall 17
Oberlin, OH 44074-1095

a master's degree, having studied with Joseph Fuchs. "I am now doing the NYC freelance scene," she says, "including a monthly trip to Connecticut to play with the New Haven Symphony." She is taking other orchestra auditions and hoping, she says, for a steady job "sometime in the future."

1992 **Jim Leaves Kitts** is a master's degree student in the U. Michigan Sch. of Natural Resources and Environment, doing research on conservation attitudes and behavior in student co-ops. Next school year he will teach an undergrad course on environmental social movements in the university's Pilot Program. He will live with students, be a staff-person in the residence hall, and teach a four-credit class that satisfies the first-year English requirement. "I think its title is going to be *Defending the Earth: Contemporary Environmental Activism* . . . I'm excited," he says, "The class is *mine*. I can finally assign anything I want!" Jim expects his M.A. in May 1995. Permanent address: 72 Elton Dr., Newington, CT 06111. ▼ **Catherine Pellegrino** is working off the cosmic debts she incurred doing graduate work in the socially irrelevant field of music theory by working with a grad-student organization to win recognition as a legal union from the Yale U. administration. She's going on tour with the Yale Concert Band to England and France in June. ▼ **David** and Amy Hanson '93 **Simmons** will attend Indiana U. this fall, working toward master's degrees in music. David will study voice with Patricia Étienne-Havranek, but Amy's not sure of a teacher yet. David was recently appointed editor of the *Indiana U. Dept. of Geography Alumni Newsletter*, "kind of a small-scale sort of thing," he says, "but it brings in a little overtime so we can afford my new 1974 Honda CL360 motorcycle, which ran for a full six days after I got it!" David guesses his "new hobby will be small engine repair." ▼ **Charles Webster** says that until April he was "swimming in paint" as a resident painter at Vermont Studio Center in Johnson, Vt. He is doing the same, he says, at the Chautauqua Sch. of Art this summer, and, he hopes, at "Yale or someplace" in the fall, when he expects to be doing "various sundry things for money." ▼ **Hue L. Huynh** says she is working in the real world. She "started out at the bottom of the rope as a nobody," she says, but was promoted to key orders processor for Lady Desirée, a national lingerie company in Santa Ana, Calif. Job hunting again, however, in Durham, N.C., she will relocate in August to live with her fiancé, Paul Abrahamse '91, who is working on a Ph.D. in economics at Duke. Hue is thinking about going for a master of fine arts degree in writing at UNC-Chapel Hill.

1993 **Mordecai Moore** is the manager of the men's shoe and clothing department at Macy's Willowbrook. Address: 620 Ft. Washington, New York, NY 10040. Telephone: (201) 785-9525, x268.

ELECTRONIC OBIE :-)

Commencement Speeches On Line; E-Mail Directory: More Than 400 Names

By Linda K. Grashoff

By the time you read this, I will have put the 1994 commencement speeches on a server, where they are available through anonymous FTP (<ftp:alum.cc.oberlin.edu>). They are in ASCII format, so you don't need special software to read the files. The commencement speaker this year was playwright Romulus Linney '53. Susan McGary '74, rector of St. Aidan's Episcopal Church in Ann Arbor and former Protestant chaplain of Oberlin College, gave the invocation at the commencement exercises; she gave the baccalaureate address in Finney Chapel the day before. The exercises included remarks from President S. Frederick Starr and from senior-class president Amina Chaudhri. People without access to the Internet may request paper copies of the speeches (specify which speeches you'd like) from the Office of Communications, 153 W. Lorain St., Oberlin, OH 44074.

As of 12 noon May 31 the *Oberlin College Alumni E-mail Directory* listed 430 names and E-mail addresses of alumni. I receive new additions to the directory every week, so the collection is bound to be larger by the time you read this. To be listed, send me a message at alummag@ocvaxc.cc.oberlin.edu and remember to include your class year. To access the directory—which resides on one of the College mainframe computers—you need a modem or access to the Internet telnet function. Here are the instructions again (nothing has changed since we published them first in the fall 1993 issue):

1. To reach Oberlin's OCVAXA computer by modem dial (216) 775-8850 at 300, 1200, or 2400 baud, or (216) 775-8888 at 9600 baud. A welcome message will say, "Type C (for VAXA), C OCVAXC for VAXC, or C OBIS.LIB.OBERLIN.EDU, then RETURN." You should enter C and hit <RETURN>. To reach OCVAXA by telnet, enter the command [telnet ocvaxa.cc.oberlin.edu](telnet:ocvaxa.cc.oberlin.edu) (and hit <RETURN>).

2. When the screen asks you for a username, enter aluminfo.

3. Follow the directions on your screen.

4. Key **exit** or **quit** to exit the system.

Our two warnings still apply: We do not guarantee the accuracy of the information, and you are forbidden to use the information for commercial purposes.

By the way, if you want to be listed in the *Oberlin College Alumni E-mail Directory*, you must tell me so. If you send in your E-mail address for inclusion with your class-note information, I will put your E-mail address in your class note but not in the directory—unless you give me that permission.

Another electronic way to be in touch with other alums—corresponding through the oc-alum mail list—has gone through a slight change. Andy Rowan now updates the digest version of the list every 24 hours rather than every 8 to 12 hours. To subscribe to the full version send Andy a message at oc-alum-request@ocean.rutgers.edu with the following on the subject line of the message: **subscribe my-E-mail-address**, where **my-E-mail-address** is your E-mail address. In the body of the message give your name and Oberlin College class year. To subscribe to the digest, send your subscription request to oc-alum-d-request@ocean.rutgers.edu.

Thanks to Chris Barker '88 for suggesting I reprint the E-mail directory information; I hope this was news to some of you, and that the rest of you didn't mind reading the same thing twice. Thanks to John Melson '83 for suggesting I print computer commands in a different typeface from the rest of the article; I hope the contrast in typefaces made the information easier to grasp.

Losses in the Oberlin Family



FACULTY Margaret Schauffler, Feb. 23, 1994, in Elyria, Ohio, at 97. She was associate professor emerita of art. Her Memorial Minute will be published in a future issue of the alumni magazine.

1918 Florence A. Wells Haeberle, Apr. 6, 1994 in Shelburne, Mass., at 97. She taught school in Ithaca, N.Y., and worked in the Cleveland Courthouse. After her marriage she ran a dressmaking and tailoring shop and for 17 years gave a daily local newscast over Massachusetts radio station WHAI. She ran an antiques shop into her 80s. She founded the Shelburne Falls Art Center. Surviving are two children, including Ann H. Rees '51; five grandchildren, including David Rees '90, six great-grandchildren; and a sister.

Lillian Elizabeth Taylor, Dec. 10, 1993, in Apalachin, N.Y., at 104. She taught in rural schools before beginning her college education. After graduating from Oberlin she taught Latin in North Dakota and New York. After retirement she assumed physical care of her father's famous flower garden. Her sister survives, as do two nephews, a niece, and seven grandnieces and -nephews.

1919 Margaret Rice Egeland, Jan. 19, 1994, in New Smyrna Beach, Fla., at 96. She earned a master's degree in speech at U. Michigan. For 39 years she taught English and speech in Amherst, Ohio—her high-school alma mater—where she introduced drama and speech into the high-school curriculum. In 1989 she was inducted into the Amherst Schs. Distinguished Alumni Gallery of Success. She moved to Edgewater, Fla., 27 years ago. Survivors include a stepson and a cousin.

1921 Margaret Ferris Fletcher, Dec. 26, 1993, in Olmsted Township, Ohio, at 94.

Earning a K.P.T. degree at Oberlin, she also studied in the conservatory and subsequently taught for about five years in the Westlake (Ohio) Schs.

Frances L. Yocom, Jan. 29, 1994, in Sebring, Ohio, at 94 after a brief illness. After receiving her Oberlin A.B. in English, she worked in college and university libraries and continued her education in library science, receiving an M.S. in librarianship from U. California—Berkeley in 1939. She worked in various academic libraries and retired in 1965 from UNC—Chapel Hill, where she headed the cataloging department for 19 years. Twenty-five years ago she moved with her sister and sister-in-law to a retirement home in Sebring. She is survived by a niece; a nephew, John E. Yocom '44; and many grandnieces and -nephews.

1922 Theodore Soller, Feb. 20, 1994, in Flagstaff, Ariz., at 94. He was an emeritus physics professor of Amherst Coll., where he taught for 39 years. His M.A. and Ph.D. were from U. Wisconsin, and he worked in the fields of nuclear magnetic resonance, superconductivity, and the behavior of matter at low temperatures. He chaired Amherst's physics department from 1946 to 1966. As a member of the Radiation Laboratory at MIT, he helped advance radar technology during World War II. He is survived by his wife, Nina; two daughters, Nancy Child '50 and Cynthia '56; and three grandchildren. Gifts in his memory may be sent to Oberlin Coll.

1923 Margaret Hammaker, Dec. 11, 1993, in Claremont, Calif., at 92. After receiving her bachelor's degree from Columbia U. she taught teachers in India for almost four decades, taking classes at the Oberlin Graduate Sch. of Theology during furloughs. After retiring she lived two years in Oberlin; she lived the past 25 years in Claremont.

Harlan Greg Murrelle, Dec. 12, 1993, at 92. He was the retired owner and president of Murrelle Printing in Sayre, Pa., where he also co-owned radio stations. He had retired to Delray Beach, Fla. He leaves his wife, Josephine; three children; nine grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

1924 Nellie Brown Loomis, Oct. 1, 1993, in Columbia, Mo., three weeks before her 98th birthday. Before and after having attended Oberlin and receiving her S.B. degree from U. Missouri, she taught school in Missouri—mostly in rural areas—from 1912

to 1922 and from 1944 to 1958. She was married to Ralph Loomis '24, a minister, died in 1990. The couple had four children.

Almira Jamieson Marks, May 12, 1993, in North East, Pa., at age 88. She graduated from the Edinboro Normal Sch. and taught elementary school in Albion, Fairview, and Fredonia, Pa. She and her late husband established and operated the Marks Funeral Home in North East from 1935 to 1971. Survivors include two children, a brother, a sister, and three grandchildren.

Alice Hester Simpson, Dec. 28, 1993, in Oberlin 10 days after her 90th birthday. After earning her Oberlin A.B. in English literature, she earned a library-science degree at Case Western Reserve U. and studied history at U. Hawaii. She had been a librarian in Honolulu and Oberlin and had recently moved to Kendal at Oberlin. She had no surviving family members.

1925 Victor Obenhaus, Apr. 2, 1994, in Chicago at 90 following a severe stroke in February. A retired professor of theology at Chicago Theological Sem., he was acting president of the seminary in the 1970s, retiring in 1974. Author of five books on Christian ethics, including *Ethics for an Industrial Age*, published by Harper & Row in 1965, he received an A.B. at Oberlin, an M.Div. at Union Theological Sem., an M.A. and an Ed.D. at Columbia U., and a D.Div. at Chicago Theological Sem. He was an alumni-elected trustee of Oberlin Coll. from 1948 to 1960. Vice-president of his class, he organized most of the class reunions. Survivors include his wife, Marion, and three children, including Constance Goldberg '61.

Eloise Layman Risley, Jan. 26, 1994, in Lexington, Ky. She was born in Tokyo Nov. 3, 1903. Following a few years of teaching high school, she was the office manager for the Churchill Weavers in Berea, Ky., where she lived for many years, later becoming assistant director of admissions for Berea Coll. After retiring in 1972 she moved with her late sister, Gertrude Churchill '22, to Kissimmee, Fla., returning to Kentucky in 1992. She is survived by a son; three nieces, including Elizabeth Churchill '52; 10 grandnieces and -nephews, and several great-grandnieces and -nephews.

1926 Clarmont Paul Doane, Apr. 7, 1994, in Fresno, Calif. at 89. A retired orthopedic surgeon, he was a former president of the Fresno County (Calif.) Medical Soc.

and the Fresno County Tuberculosis Assoc. His medical degree was from Washington U. At Oberlin he was on the *Hi-O-Hi* staff and contributed line drawings and lettering to the 1925 edition of the yearbook. He was a Shansi rep, and during WWII a U.S. Navy shipboard medical doctor in the Pacific. A member of the College Heisman Club, he was also a fellow of the American and International colleges of surgeons as well as a member of other honorary, civic, and social organizations. His wife, Peg Palmer Doane '30, survives, as do two children; a sister, Emily Heitake '30; eight grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Jessie May Hoag, Dec. 23, 1993, in Jennings, La., at 87. Her Oberlin A.B. was in mathematics, as was her M.A. from U. Alabama. She held an education degree from Louisiana State U. and studied at several other universities. She taught mathematics to elementary, high school, and college students, completing her career as an associate professor in the mathematics department of U. Louisiana-Lafayette, a position she held 25 years. After retirement she did volunteer tutoring.

Clara Luella Storrs, Jan. 9, 1994, in Los Angeles at 91. She was a retired teacher of music for the Los Angeles Bd. of Education. She also was organist and choir director for several churches over the years. Her Oberlin degree was a Mus.B., and she earned a B.A. and an M.S., respectively, in education from UCLA and U. Southern California.

1927 James Alfred Dexter, Mar. 14, 1993, in Englewood, Fla., at 87. He had been an executive of Mobil Oil. He was a Mason and a member of the B.P.O. Elks. For four years he was the treasurer of a Junior Chamber of Commerce. Two sons survive.

Norine Hower Howells, Nov. 11, 1993, in St. Paul at 88 of Alzheimer's disease. A chemistry major at Oberlin, she earned an M.S. in chemistry at Oklahoma State U. When her husband died in 1951, she went to work at Coe Coll., where she retired 20 years later. Three children survive.

Elizabeth Stevenson Lindquist, Oct. 11, 1993, in Dixon, Ill., at 88. An English major at Oberlin, where she received the A.B., she was a member of many church, civic, and social organizations. She is survived by two daughters, a sister, and five grandchildren.

1928 Mildred Betts Frank, Feb. 21, 1993,

in Port Charlotte, Fla., two and a half weeks before turning 90. A retired teacher, she graduated from Oberlin's K.P.T. program and earned a B.S. in education at Ohio U. She taught the physically handicapped in Elyria, Ohio, for many years. She was a charter member of the Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club. Her daughter, Marianne Turman '54; three grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren survive.

Barbara Shattuck Fuller, Nov. 25, 1993, in Springfield, Mass., at 87. She participated in civic and social organizations and was a former deaconess and former president of the Women's Guild of Faith Congregational Church in Springfield. She was a former officer in the Western Mass. Alumni Club and the Conn. Valley Alumni Club. Survivors include a daughter.

Carroll Kingsley Shaw, Dec. 20, 1993, in Mitchelville, Md., less than three weeks before his 88th birthday. He had had a stroke a year earlier. He held a variety of positions in the federal government in his 38-year career in public and business administration, most recently with the Foreign Service. He lectured in political science at Oberlin Coll. from 1938 to 1941 and was editor of the *Oberlin Alumni Magazine* when that duty was among those of the Alumni Association general alumni secretary, a post he held from 1937 to 1941. He and his wife, the former Conna Bell '28, had been co-class agents from the inception of the class-agent system in 1972. From 1980 to 1983 he was a member of the Alumni Bd., precursor of the Alumni Council. In earlier years he was an Oberlin alumni club secretary in Washington, D.C., and Mexico City. His A.B. was in political science, his M.A., from Syracuse U., in international relations, and his Ph.D., from U. Illinois-Urbana, in public administration. Surviving are his wife; four daughters, including Elizabeth Weiner '56, Conna Gesler '59, and Carolyn '66; six grandchildren, including Conna Weiner '83; and a great-grandchild.

Marguerite Kestler Smith, Nov. 13, 1993, in South Bend, Ind., at 87. Having majored in mathematics and English at Oberlin, she was a retired mathematics teacher for the South Bend Bd. of Education. A one-time member of the board of directors of the South Bend YWCA and a regional representative for Oberlin Coll., she was active in other community-service groups.

Sarah Wirkler Wolff, Jan. 20, 1994, in

Traverse City, Mich., at 84. She was born in Oberlin, where her father, Jack Wirkler '03, was assistant and associate secretary of Oberlin Coll. from 1913 to 1945 and a long-time glee-club director and manager. In 1940 she moved to Traverse City, where she was a past president of the PTA and a volunteer with the Retired Senior Volunteer Program. Her brother Richard '34 predeceased her. She is survived by six children, a brother, 30 grandchildren, and 24 great-grandchildren.

Elizabeth Craig Wood, Jan. 11, 1994, in Springfield, Mass., at 88. Having earned her A.B. degree in classics and a master's degree in the field from Boston U., she taught Latin, English, and French at Chicopee (Mass.) H.S. for 12 years. She taught Latin at other schools for shorter periods of time. Traveling widely, she did the research, editing, proof-reading, and indexing of books that her husband, James Playsted Wood, wrote. She was a former vice-president of the Oberlin Coll. Conn. Valley Alumni Assoc., and she and her sister, Ethel I. Craig, endowed a fund, the Craig-Wood Fund, in Oberlin's Chemistry Dept. Her brother, D. Norman '23 predeceased her. Her nephew Norman C. '53, Oberlin Coll. professor of chemistry, and niece Elizabeth Tabbutt '55 survive.

1929 Ruth Merthe Bailey, Feb. 5, 1994, in Elyria, Ohio, at 85. She lived in Elyria most of her life and for 36 years was a clerk and buyer for former Kresge Co. in that city. A niece, Elizabeth Doolittle Peckham '49, and a nephew, Robert Doolittle '48, survive.

Lester Rodgers Eddy, Mar. 30, 1994, in Irvine, Calif., at 85 after a prolonged illness. He had served four years as a surgeon in the U.S. Navy during WWII and practiced medicine and surgery for 50 years in New Jersey and seven in California. Surviving are his wife, the former Elizabeth Tuckley '30; and two children, Richard '57 and Carol Shrider '58.

Helen Purdy Tryban, Feb. 2, 1994, in Denver at 87 of cancer. For about 50 years she taught and supervised the teaching of music in public schools in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Illinois. She also gave private piano and voice lessons, tutored home-bound students in academics, and was director of music for her church. A member of many professional, social, and religious organizations, she did much volunteer work. Survivors include two daughters, three grandchil-

1929 CONTINUED

dren, one great-grandson, four step-grandchildren, and eight step-great-grandchildren.

1930

A. Kathryn Kinney Allarding, July 6, 1993, in Columbus, Ohio, about two weeks before her 84th birthday. She was a retired kindergarten and elementary-school teacher in Mansfield, Ohio, schools. Her brother survives.

Helen Geisinger Hanselman, Jan. 3, 1994, in Auburn, Ind., at 83 of a massive coronary attack. A chemistry major at Oberlin, she earned an M.A. degree in bacteriology at Smith Coll., where she taught for six years. For three years she was a research chemist at Stuyvesant Square Hosp. in New York City, and for a year she was the city bacteriologist for Fort Wayne, Ind. For 20 years she was a member and officer of the Women's Auxiliary of the Presbyterian-St. Luke's Hosp., where her husband, Russel '30, was a surgeon. He died in 1983. A son survives.

Allene Houghlan Kiddle, Mar. 13, 1994, in Ann Arbor at 86. She taught school in Ohio before marrying Lawrence B. Kiddle '29, who died in 1991. During the 1950s she taught in the Willow Run (Mich.) Sch. District. She was a member of several social and civic clubs. Her sister, Mary Hantzsche '32, preceded her in death. Surviving are two daughters, including Sue Van Atta '59, and four grandchildren, including Mary Ellen Meyer Sabourin '82 and Johanna Meyer '90.

1931

William Taylor Griffiths, Jan. 19, 1994, in Springfield, Ohio, at 86. A religion major at Oberlin, he earned an M.Div. at Union Theological Sem. and was a Congregational minister for 40 years in New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. After retirement he became the grand chaplain of the Ohio Masons and traveled the state widely. His wife, Renotta, is among his survivors.

Walter Leininger Hoy, Feb. 17, 1994, in Napoleon, Ohio, at 84. He was the Henry County (Ohio) clerk of courts from 1974 to 1988, and for 39 years earlier had been in the banking business. He retired as vice-president of Banc Ohio. He was the 1982 Napoleon Area Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year and the 1988 local Elks Citizen of the Year. A WWII veteran, he was a member of the American Legion and a member and officer of many other civic and social groups. His Oberlin A.B. was in political science, and his M.A., from

Princeton, was in government. His wife, Genevieve, and two sons survive.

Dolores Gintert "Dickie" Rader, Mar. 30, 1994, in Mesa, Ariz., at 84. She was a piano teacher, mostly self-employed but also for schools in Stark County, Ohio. Her A.B. was in music. Three children survive.

Hazel Walrath Vogelgsang, Nov. 24, 1993, in Oriskany, N.Y., at 84. She taught English and was a librarian in the early '30s, was a private tutor and taught adult education over the years, and was a librarian from 1964 to 1974. She was a member of several civic and social groups and did much volunteer work. Her Oberlin A.B. was in English, and she studied library science at Albany State Coll. Her husband, Frederick, survives.

1932

Virginia Latshaw Smeigh, Feb. 3, 1994, in Paoli, Pa., at 81 in a single-car collision. Her Oberlin A.B. was in English, and she was a retired elementary teacher. Her husband, Gerald, survives.

Joel Collins Williams, Sept. 25, 1993, in Kerrville, Tex., at 87 of congestive heart failure. A retired piano technician, for 20 years he built, promoted, managed, and sold duck-pin bowling alleys. Holding an A.B. in physical education, he was an athletic instructor in the navy during WWII. He was a life member of Disabled American Veterans, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and American Legion Post 53. Born in Oberlin, he lived his first 30 years in the town; he moved to California in 1937 and had lived in Hemet, Calif., for the past 23 years. His wife, Kathryn, and nieces and nephews survive.

1933

Elizabeth Fletcher Ford, Feb. 21, 1994, in East Aurora, N.Y., at 82. A social case worker in the 1930s, she followed her Oberlin A.B. in sociology with certification in social work from Western Reserve Academy (now Case Western Reserve U.). Later she served as an officer of many civic and social organizations, including the League of Women Voters and the Girl Scouts. She was a former board member of the Oberlin Alumni Club of Western New York. Her husband, James W., Jr. '34, predeceased her. Surviving are two children, including James W., Jr. '62.

Ruth Pier Mainland, Mar. 25, 1993, in Stevens Point, Wis., at 81. She earned her bachelor's degree in English from Mt. Holyoke Coll., a master's degree from U. Chicago, and a certificate of library science

from U. California-Berkeley. She taught English and headed the women's dormitory at Lawrence U. for a year before joining U. Illinois-Champaign as a librarian. Later she was a faculty member of Lyons Township (Ill.) Jr. Coll. She had lived in Stevens Point since 1955. Survivors include two children and four grandchildren.

1934

Austin Rosenberger Keiser, Dec. 22, 1993, in Bluffton, Ohio, at 96. He taught high school before becoming a Mennonite and, later, a Methodist minister. His B.A. degree was from Bluffton Coll., his B.D. from Witmarsum Theological Sem., and his S.T.M. from Oberlin. A son survives.

Norman Gregg Long, Apr. 5, 1994, in Oberlin at 86 after a long illness. A Methodist minister, he taught at Florida A&M Coll. and Bishop Coll. before serving 30 years as an army chaplain. He retired to Oberlin as a lieutenant colonel. He earned his B.A. degree at Atlanta U., and at Oberlin he earned B.D., A.M.T., and S.T.M. degrees. His wife, the former Louise Bows '43, survives, as do three children, two grandchildren, three brothers, and two sisters.

Ruth Jesse Miller, Jan. 14, 1994, in Rome, N.Y., at 81. A retired federal employee in Washington, D.C., with 35 years of service, the most recent as executive secretary of the Small Business Size Appeals Bd. After retirement she graduated from the Lewis Hotel-Motel Sch. and held positions in the hotel field. She helped organize volunteers at the Sibley Hosp., was a member of many civic and church groups, and sang in several choirs. Survivors include a sister, two nephews, one grandnephew, and three grandnieces.

1935

Ruth Beebower Parkinson, Feb. 11, 1994, in Columbus, Ohio, at 80 after a long illness. A conservatory student at Oberlin, she taught piano for 25 years and sang in two church choirs. Surviving are her husband, George; five children; seven grandchildren; and two sisters.

Roger Wolcott Sperry, Apr. 17, 1994, in Pasadena, Calif., at 80 of a heart attack following a degenerative neuromuscular disease. In 1981 he won the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for his work on understanding the communication between the two hemispheres of the brain. He received the National Medal of Science in 1989. He is best known for his research with split-brain patients: people with the

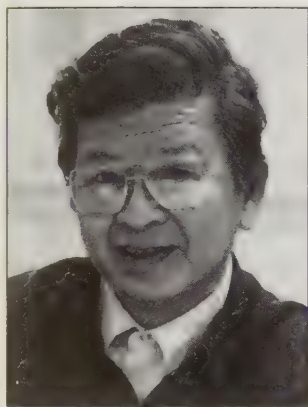
Memorial Minute

Edward Tak-Wah Wong

Professor of Mathematics
1924-1993

By
Samuel Goldberg

On December 26, 1993, Edward Tak-Wah Wong died of cancer at his home in Oberlin. The Fates were unkind. There were grandchildren to see



OBERLIN COLLEGE ARCHIVES PHOTOGRAPH

grow up; there were gardening chores to do and fishing expeditions to take; there was mathematics to think and talk about. His family and wide circle of friends and colleagues

should have had many more happy years with him.

Of his first 20 or so years, it is worth recording the following facts. He was the second son in a well-to-do, highly educated, and respected Chinese family from Canton. Having passed the entrance examinations, he was enrolled in one of the most prestigious boarding schools in China. He spent pleasant summer holidays at a family country home in the midst of a large lichee orchard. In the late 1930s the Sino-Japanese War caused his school to move from one site to another. During one such move he was separated from his teachers and fellow students and had to fend for himself. He managed to survive the following years, but could not avoid being a close observer of warfare's cruelty and inhumanity. Somehow he ultimately made his way to Hong Kong, and it was from there that he managed to arrange passage to the United States, landing in San Francisco in 1947. He stayed in a boarding house, six people to a room, and made ends meet by waiting on tables and parking and washing cars at a downtown garage. He attended some evening college classes, including mathematics and chemistry.

When he heard that federal money was available to help Chinese students at the

University of Washington, he went north to Seattle. It was there in 1951 that he earned a bachelor of science degree with a major in mathematics. In another year he had a master's degree. During this time he worked as a "house boy" in a sorority house, serving lunch and dinner to the girls, washing dishes, wearing a required black-jacket uniform, and suffering the indignities of what was then routine discrimination. During the summers he escaped to the country and worked as a farmhand pitching hay, milking cows, harvesting crops, all for \$3 a day in addition to room and board. It was in Seattle that he started what turned out to be a life-long enthusiasm by learning to play tennis.

Eddie received a fellowship for graduate study at the University of Rochester and served as a teaching fellow there from 1952 to 1955. He met Kazuko at Rochester, she having come to work in the laboratory of a well-known embryologist there after completing her bachelor's degree at Mount Holyoke College. They were married in 1955. While completing his dissertation, he was instructor of mathematics at Rochester. He received the Ph.D. degree in 1956. The following year he and Kazuko moved to New Haven, where he had a postdoctoral fellowship in mathematics at Yale University and earned some money as instructor of mathematics at the University of Connecticut. While in Connecticut he heard of an opening in the mathematics department at Oberlin College. He was appointed assistant professor of mathematics in 1957. It was during his first years in Oberlin that he became an American citizen. His family grew to include three sons.

During his first sabbatical leave, in 1963-64, he was awarded a National Science Faculty Fellowship for research and study at Kyoto University in Japan. An Oberlin College Research Status Fellowship enabled him to travel to Japan to continue his research during the academic year 1968-69. In 1973-74 he received a Shansi Faculty Fellowship to teach mathematics at Tunghai University in Taiwan. The four reasons he put forward in an April 28, 1972, letter defending his request for a year-long leave of absence that would permit him to accept this fellowship are characteristic:

First, he reported that the newly established mathematics department at Tunghai University needed to broaden its math-

ematical curriculum and to stimulate mathematical interest among faculty and students, especially in the area of abstract algebra, adding modestly, "I think I am qualified to make some contribution in this respect." Secondly, he wrote, "Being of Oriental descent but at the same time being American, I think I have somewhat of an advantage in promoting better understanding and friendship between American and Oriental peoples." His third reason was that his research would not be neglected since his teaching responsibilities would be manageable. Finally, he added what was a very important additional advantage: "During my stay, I plan to learn about Oriental culture (Chinese poetry and calligraphy)." Needless to say, the leave of absence was his.

Among all the invitations Eddie received to teach in the Far East, most important was the invitation to spend three months teaching mathematics during the fall term of 1980 at Fudan University in Shanghai, among the strongest universities in all of China for research in mathematics. It was his opportunity to return to the homeland. This was the first of a large number of visits to China, where he was always an honored guest, teaching mathematics to undergraduates, conducting research seminars for graduate students and faculty, helping people in need, and making friends wherever he went.

He retired in 1988 after teaching at Oberlin College for 30 years although he was induced to return as emeritus visiting professor for the fall semester of 1990-91.

Eddie's research in mathematics was concentrated in abstract algebra. He published a dozen papers on various aspects of ring theory, originated (in joint work with R.E. Johnson) the idea of a quotient ring—which subsequently became a research topic pursued by many mathematicians, and obtained results about quotient rings by methods of homological algebra.

In 1968 Academic Press published the textbook *Linear Algebra*, which he coauthored with Robert Stoll, then a colleague in the mathematics department. In 1979, he wrote the first of a series of eight papers on matrix theory, investigating general inverses and Moore-Penrose inverses. His expertise was recognized with numerous requests by editors of the leading research journals for help in refereeing papers submitted for publication. He maintained friendly professional contact with

1935 CONTINUED

connections between the right and left halves of their brains surgically cut (as a treatment for epilepsy). He showed that the two halves can act independently of each other, and together. "The hallmark of Dr. Sperry's work as a scientist was his skill as an experimentalist," Nicholas Wade wrote in his *New York Times* obituary. He also showed, Wade wrote, "that nerves from the brain of the newt and other amphibians would reconnect, when severed, to the same place in the retina despite all efforts to misguide them." That experiment and others of his, dating back to the 1940s, support the conclusion that, in Wade's rewording: "The brain's wiring . . . is very specific, and particular pathways serve particular functions." In recent years he developed a theory of consciousness and was developing a science based on ethical values. He spoke at the 50th reunion of his class on these issues and contributed thoughts along these lines to

the Spring 1992 *Oberlin Alumni Magazine* article "Alumni Speak of the College Mission." At the time of his death he was emeritus Bd. of Trustees Professor of Psychobiology at the California Inst. of Technology. Earlier he had taught at Harvard and at U. Chicago, where he received his doctorate in zoology. His Oberlin A.B. was in English; he also earned an A.M. at Oberlin in psychology. Surviving are his wife, Norma; two children, including Janeth '85; two grandchildren; and a brother, Russell '35.

1936 Inez Grace Perry Ashby, Jan. 28, 1994, in Pataskala, Ohio, at 78 following a stroke. After earning an A.B. degree in English, she took graduate studies at Simmons Coll. She entered the military with her father and brother in 1942, leaving in 1947 as a U.S. Navy lieutenant commander. She retired as a merchandise supervisor at Sorg Paper Co. after 25 years of service. Two daughters survive.

Winfield Goldsmith Doyle, Jan. 25, 1994, in Cleveland at 80. He retired from the faculty of Case Western Reserve U. in 1978, having joined the university's Health Sciences Communication Center as an administrator in 1963. For 13 years earlier he had been the first curator of education at the Cleveland Health Museum. Before and after WWII he was an educator at the American Museum of Natural History in New York. His navy duty involved being on the first ship to enter Japan to pick up American POWs about two days after the Japanese surrender. He earned an M.A. at U. Minnesota and an Ed.D. at Columbia U. Surviving are his wife, the former Mildred Gogolick '36; a daughter, Jean '65; and two grandchildren.

Marjorie Gould Edgar, Feb. 8, 1994, in Wyomissing, Pa., at 79. Her A.B. was in physical education, which she taught from 1936 to 1941 in Mt. Lebanon (Pa.) Public Schs. She was a member of First Presby-

Edward Wong, continued

a glittering group of algebraists in this country and abroad.

Eddie enjoyed talking mathematics with both faculty and students. He was extraordinarily successful in encouraging our best students to major in mathematics and to want to learn more. He was always talking about mathematical problems, thinking about them, and solving them. He worked long hours with students willing to enter the Putnam Mathematics Competition, preparing them for the very difficult problems on the six-hour examination. A high point came in 1973 when the Oberlin team placed second among hundreds of colleges and universities in the United States and Canada.

Eddie worked more effectively than anyone else with honors students, and his advanced students admired him greatly. An exceptionally large number of his honors students are now professors of mathematics at colleges and universities throughout the country. A few excerpts from testimonial letters sent when his retirement was announced illustrate the qualities that make a great teacher:

"He constantly demonstrated how the mathematics classroom could be made a warm and exciting place. He showed me that high drama exists in mathematics,

and he showed by his example how effectively that drama can be used in teaching. Above all, I remember how he always let us (his students) see his enjoyment of mathematics and his desire for us to join him in the mathematical feast. In this way, he at once inspired us and taught us how to inspire. These are things I do my best to emulate."

"When I think back on those days, I remember how you would prod me, and you could make me feel worthwhile with one little word, and always I remember your sense of humor and your high expectations of me. I am a better mathematician and a better person for being taught by you."

"Perhaps most important, though, was your showing me through your own obvious pleasure just how enjoyable such thinking could be and your treating me as someone who was a potential colleague in the field. I hope that at least a few of my students have gotten something of the same sort from my teaching and friendship. I have certainly wanted to follow your model."

"Working with you on my honors project was a pleasant and exciting time. I think it was the first time I became really aware that a whole field of mathematics can be elegant. You had a lot to do with this maturing. I guess you made another mathematician. It's quite sad for

future students that you are retiring; they will miss a great experience."

"I took a course in abstract algebra from you at Oberlin in 1967-68. It was my first exposure to the wonders of groups, rings, and Galois theory. I cannot say that I absorbed everything you said, but you convinced me that the subject was worth working hard to understand, and I have been doing that ever since. That was the year I decided to make a career of mathematics. Next spring I will be teaching an abstract algebra course like yours for the first time in my career. If I can do it half as well as you did I will be very pleased."

"I have very fond memories of the hours I spent in your office discussing algebra. You always had time to talk with me, gently pushing me in the right direction. Your obvious love of mathematics was an inspiration to me. I'm sure it has affected my whole career and the way in which I do mathematics. I hope others at Oberlin will continue the traditions you have set."

Eddie Wong is missed by all whose lives he touched, but will always be remembered with affection and admiration.

SAMUEL GOLDBERG is emeritus professor of mathematics. This Memorial Minute was adopted by the General Faculty of Oberlin College February 22, 1994.

terian Church in Reading, Pa. Her daughter survives.

John Henry Keefe, Apr. 4, 1994, in Silver Lake, Ohio, at 80. He was pastor emeritus of the Church in Silver Lake (United Church of Christ), which he had served for 24 years. Earlier he had been pastor of UCC churches in New York. After retiring he served several interim pastorships. During WWII he was an army air force chaplain assigned to the 450th Bomb Group in Italy. In Ohio he served the UCC at state and national levels and was involved in local civic groups. President of his class at the time of the 25th reunion, he later helped in Oberlin's fundraising. Surviving are his wife, the former Helen Senne '35; two children, including J. Paul '64, and two granddaughters.

George William Molnar, Nov. 27, 1993, in Little Rock, Ark., at 79 of cancer. He was a retired research physiologist for the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Little Rock. The 1981 recipient of the Southern Medical Assoc.'s Original Research Award, he specialized in thermal regulation, doing basic research on the effects of cold on military personnel, thermal responses of the body to surgical operations, and the physiological basis of menopausal hot flashes. He was a zoology major and Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Oberlin and earned his Ph.D. in zoology at Yale. His wife, the former Marion Drew '36, survives.

John Willard Wherry, Apr. 5, 1994, in Elyria, Ohio, at 78 of prostate cancer. He was chief of staff at Elyria Memorial Hosp. in 1962 and president of the Lorain County Medical Soc. in 1965. He was a member of several civic and social groups. Having maintained a medical practice in Elyria until retiring in 1985, he then volunteered at the Lorain Free Clinic. During WWII he served in the U.S. Army. He earned a master's degree and his medical degree from Northwestern. His wife, Phyllis Strayer, survives, as do two children, a stepson, and eight grandchildren.

1937 Charles Barker King, Apr. 7, 1994, in Corning, N.Y., at 78 of cancer. A member of many professional and academic associations, he was a research scientist for Corning for 42 years, retiring in 1982. He earned his Oberlin A.B. and MIT Ph.D. in chemistry. His father, Harold '05, was a professor of history at Oberlin, and his mother, Hazel '14, was curator of collections at the College art museum. His grandfather was

Henry Churchill King, Class of 1879 and president of Oberlin Coll. from 1902 to 1927. Surviving are his wife, the former Ernestine Evans '38; four children; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

1938 Jane Brooks Ritter, Jan. 23, 1994, in Anderson, Ind., at 77 following an extended illness. She was physical director of the Anderson YMCA for 21 years, retiring in 1968. Earlier she taught physical education—in which she earned her Oberlin A.B.—in Ohio. She was a member of many service and social clubs. Her husband, Warren "Pete," survives.

1939 Bernard Ingersoll Duffy, Feb. 22, 1994, in Durham, N.C., at 76. He was emeritus professor of American literature at Duke U. Before going to Duke in 1963 he taught at Michigan State U. and U. Minnesota. In 1970 he received a Fulbright scholarship to teach at U. Copenhagen, and in 1974 a visiting professorship to U. California-Irvine. He edited one anthology, co-edited another, and wrote three critical studies, including *A Poetry of Presence: The Writing of William Carlos Williams*, published by U. Wisconsin Press in 1986. His Oberlin A.B. was in English; he earned his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in English at Ohio State U. He is survived by his wife, Edith; three children; four grandchildren; and two sisters, Mary Ellen Vincent '44 and Carol Regan '51.

Richard Thomas Jennings, Nov. 1, 1993, in San Diego at 75. He was a long-time employee of General Motors, working for the Allison Div. during WWII and then for the Truck and Coach Div. in many phases of sales and advertising. He retired in 1979. His A.B. degree was in economics. Survivors include his wife, the former Deborah Campbell '39; four children; four grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

Doris Marquart "Marky" Kashian, Nov. 13, 1993, in Norwalk, Ohio, at 77. She taught and tutored in the Monroeville (Ohio) Public Schs. Her Oberlin A.B. was in kindergarten–primary education. Two sons survive.

Elizabeth Hufford Kinnett, June 2, 1993, in Williamsport, Md., about three weeks before her 75th birthday. Before her marriage, in 1948, she taught English at Hanover Coll., where she was also assistant dean of women, and worked as an editor, at the National Archives Federal Register and the Office of Censorship in Washington, D.C. She also edited children's and church publica-

tions in Elgin, Ill., and did publicity for Purdue U. Some of her poems and short fiction were published in "little" magazines. She received her A.B. in English and earned an A.M. at Oberlin as well. She is survived by a son and a grandson.

Richard Dudley Marquardt, Mar. 4, 1994, in Encinitas, Calif., at 78. He was the retired executive director of Profit Corp. for Housing, City of Alameda, Calif., and previously held positions with the federal government, including that of financial management officer with the Federal Housing Adm. During WWII he was a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy, where he was on sea duty in 1942 and 1943. His Oberlin A.B. was in physical education. His brother, Charles '32, predeceased him. His wife, Adele "Sally," survives.

Margaret Koons Miller, Feb. 13, 1994, in Waterville, Maine, at 76. She was an emeritus assistant professor of art history at Colby Coll. and previously taught at U. Rhode Island and Smith Coll. She graduated cum laude from Wooster Coll., and studied further at Oberlin, the Sorbonne, and Columbia. She received a Fulbright scholarship in 1950 and was a fellow of the American Academy in Rome. Survivors include her husband, William; two daughters; a grandson; and a brother.

Cora Dann Truran, June 3, 1993, in Brewster, N.Y., at 76. A member of the Brewster Methodist Church and, earlier, of the Brewster PTA and an advisory committee for planning a new school in the area, she was a homemaker. Her Oberlin A.B. was in English. Survivors include a son.

1940 Kathleen Kinghorn Dexter, Jan. 1, 1994, in Gainesville, Fla., at 74 after an extended illness. She moved to Gainesville from Mishawaka, Ind., nine years ago. She was a homemaker and an Episcopalian. Survivors include her husband, Wilbur; two children; her mother; three grandchildren; and a brother.

James Christopher MacDermott, Nov. 24, 1993, in Lighthouse Point, Fla., at 75 of cancer and congestive heart failure. Having earned his M.D. degree at U. Rochester, and following military service in Panama during WWII, for 13 years he was a physician in Wellington, Ohio, where he was raised. After anesthesiology training, he practiced the specialty at Euclid General Hosp., retiring in 1983. He worked on the 1960 Science-Conservatory Building Fund campaign. His

1940 CONTINUED

first wife, the former Helen MacLaury '39, died in 1972; his brother Richard '42 also predeceased him. His wife, Charlotte, survives, as do eight children, 15 grandchildren, and a sister.

Howard Foster Boardman, Feb. 20, 1994, in Peacham, Vt., six days before his 76th birthday, of cancer. He served the United Church of Christ as a pastor in five states and as secretary of leadership development in Christian education for the Board of Homeland Ministries. He and his wife, the former Jean Sanderson '41, made three pilgrimages to Central America, where he gathered facts to oppose injustice and express solidarity with oppressed peoples. In the early 1970s he became a freelance photographer for secular and church agencies and publications in Massachusetts. His A.B. was in philosophy; his M.Div. was from Chicago Theological Sem. Besides his wife, he is survived by three daughters, including Barbara Hoffman '67 and Elizabeth Smith '69, and eight grandchildren.

Robert Wendell Hart, Feb. 22, 1994, in Charlottesville, Va., at 74. He was an Internal Revenue tax collector, and his A.B. was in economics. His wife, Elizabeth, survives.

1942 John Duncan Balcomb, Nov. 26, 1993, in Rhinebeck, N.Y., at 72 of cancer. A retired United Nations official, he founded Grove Press—one of the first publishing houses to issue out-of-print classics in softcover—with the late Robert Phelps '44 a few years after his honorable discharge from the U.S. Army in 1946. In 1953 he went to Paris, where he wrote and later managed the *Paris-American Kiosk*, an English-language magazine for the expatriate American community in Paris. He began his UN service in 1961, when he became a staff writer and editor at the United Nations children's fund (UNICEF); later he was director of public information for the UNICEF regional office in New Delhi and then in Nairobi. Survivors include his wife, Victoria; and six children.

Susan Marcellus Burke, Nov. 30, 1993, in Lake Forest, Calif., at 74. An Oberlin conservatory student, she also attended U. Wichita. For 15 years she did cost accounting. She had three daughters. Survivors include her husband, Stiles.

Robert Reed Hartson, Feb. 21, 1994, in

Cleveland Heights, Ohio, at 73 of cancer. He retired as a senior crystal-growth supervisor for Harshaw Chemical Co., where he worked 37 years. He helped develop large synthetic crystals used in the CAT scanner, the detector that discovered the Van Allen Radiation Belt, and instruments critical for the safe moon landing of the astronauts in the lunar lander. A weather-reconnaissance officer in the U.S. Air Force from 1942 to 1946, he earned an Air Medal for his work in pioneering year-round round-trip flights over the North Atlantic. He was president of Cleveland Heights Meals on Wheels for three years, and performed other community service. Class president from 1986 to 1992, he was active in the Cleveland alumni club and the Alumni Council. His Oberlin A.B. was in geology; he earned certification in meteorology at U. Chicago, and an M.S. in chemistry at Case Western Reserve U. His father, Louis Dunton Hartson, was a psychology professor who taught at Oberlin from 1923 to 1952. Survivors include his wife, Jean; three daughters; six grandchildren; and a sister, Mary McCalla '43.

William Treat Martin, Jr., Nov. 16, 1993, in Knoxville at 72 of cancer. He was awarded the Bronze Star in WWII, where he served in the artillery. After receiving his law degree from U. Chicago he joined the office of the general counsel of the Tennessee Valley Authority in 1952, retiring in 1986. Over the course of 30 years he appeared in several productions of the U. Tennessee Theater. His marriage with his first wife, the former Ruth Porter '42, ended in divorce. Surviving are his wife, Barbara; three children, including Barbara '73; and seven stepchildren.

1943 Sarah Smith Handyside, March 1, 1994, in Oberlin at 71 after a short illness. She transferred from Morehead State Coll., earning her Oberlin A.B. in English. For many years she was a substitute teacher and school secretary for the Oberlin Bd. of Education. She was a librarian at the College briefly. Since May 1980 she had been an active member of Alcoholics Anonymous. Survivors include her husband, Douglas '42; two daughters; two grandchildren; a brother; and a sister.

Frederick Paul Ulrich, Nov. 22, 1993, in Salem, Oreg., at 72. He was a retired director of underwriting for State Farm Mutual Auto Insurance, which he joined in 1947. He saw North Africa, Italy, south-

ern France, the Philippines, Halmaheras, Borneo, Japan, the Mariannas, and Pearl Harbor during WWII, attaining the rank of lieutenant (j.g.) in the U.S. Navy. His A.B. was in history, which he studied at the graduate level at U. California-Berkeley. His wife, Jacqueline, and a sister, Katherine Frances Genung '40, survive.

1944 Eaton "Skiz" Evans Freeman, Apr. 11, 1994, in Northampton, Mass., at 72. A retired physician, he had been in private family practice before and after his three-year service as an obstetrician and gynecologist in the U.S. Air Force Reserve in the mid 1950s. From 1971 to 1982 he was also director of the emergency department of Cooley Dickinson Hosp., where he stayed on part time until 1987. A former president of the Hampshire District Medical Soc., he served on the boards of several social-service agencies and belonged to several medical organizations. He served in the U.S. Army during WWII. His M.D. was from Syracuse U. His wife, the former Florence Herber '44, survives, as do three children, a sister, and five grandchildren.

Andrew Christian Johnson, Jan. 22, 1994, in Dalton, Ohio, at 84. A Methodist minister, he earned a B.D. at Oberlin. His wife, Clela, survives.

Paul Richard Shafer, Apr. 6, 1994, in Dartmouth, Mass., at 70 of cardiac arrest. An organic chemist who specialized in nuclear magnetic resonance, he was a member of the Dartmouth Coll. faculty from 1952 to 1988 and associate dean of the college from 1969 to 1973. He was a pilot with the U.S. Air Force in WWII and spent the last few months of the war in a German prison camp after being shot down over France. He was later a captain in the Wis. Air National Guard. His Oberlin A.B. was in chemistry, as was his Ph.D. from U. Wisconsin-Madison. Surviving are three sons, including Timothy '77; seven grandchildren; a brother, William '49; and a sister.

1946 Pratt Byrd, Apr. 1, 1994, in Washington, D.C., at 69 after a heart attack. He was a Foreign Service officer who retired in 1985 as deputy director of the State Dept.'s Office of Classification and Declassification after 35 years of service. For much of that time he was a political analyst in Germany, Afghanistan, Hungary, and Indonesia. In the 1970s he was chief liaison officer for the international peace-keeping force in Vietnam. He wrote occa-

sional book reviews for several newspapers. His Oberlin A.B. and U.-Wisconsin M.A. were in history. Elected to the Alumni Bd., precursor of the Alumni Council, he served from 1979 to 1982. His wife, the former Julia Mowrer '46, died in May 1993. Surviving are four children, including William '73; five grandchildren; a brother; and a sister.

1949 Louis Paul Meyer, Dec. 23, 1994, in Anderson, Ind., at 70 after an extended illness. A minister, he served the national Bd. of Church Extension and Home Mission staff of the Church of God for 32 years, many of them as vice-president. He served on many church committees and in many religious and social-service organizations. His Oberlin degree was a B.D., and he received an honorary doctor of divinity from Anderson Coll., in whose Sch. of Theology he was a frequent visiting instructor. Survivors include his wife, Marie; two children; three grandchildren; a brother; and four sisters.

1951 Arthur Francis Becknell, Aug. 15, 1993, in Madison, Wis., at 66 of a pulmonary embolism following prostate surgery. He was a professor of music at U. Wisconsin, where he taught eurythmics and piano accompanying. Director of the Bethany United Methodist Church Choir for 35 years, for many years he was also associate conductor and accompanist for the Madison Symphony Chorus. He belonged to many music associations. At Oberlin he earned an Ed.Mus.B. degree, at U. Wisconsin-Madison an M.M., and at U. Michigan an Ed.D. (in vocal-music education). Surviving are his wife, the former Nancy Uline '51; two sons; and four grandchildren.

Sallie Warth Schoen, Mar. 23, 1994, in Knoxville at 64 of complications following a stroke. She was a Maryville Coll. music-program associate professor, teaching piano and eurythmics. She won the Outstanding Educator in America Award in 1972. An Affiliate Artist Series accompanist at the college and a registered accompanist with Columbia Artists Management, she toured as a piano soloist. She earned a Mus.B. at Oberlin and an M.M. at Indiana U. Her husband, Victor; three daughters; and a sister survive.

1952 Benjamin Heywood Belknap, Jan. 21, 1994, in Seattle, at 63 after a long illness. He was professor of medicine and vice dean of the U. Washington Sch. of

Medicine. He led the medical school's minority-affairs task force. Earlier he taught at the Marquette U. Sch. of Medicine. He was chief of staff at Seattle Veterans Adm. Medical Center for seven years. His Oberlin A.B. was in economics; he earned a master of public affairs degree at Princeton and an M.D. at U. Rochester. His wife, Kathleen, and son survive.

Barry Wood Judd, Dec. 14, 1993, in Somerset, N.J., at 61. He was most recently a French teacher at Westfield (N.J.) Public Schs., having studied French at Oberlin, where he graduated Phi Beta Kappa. He also studied at U. Paris, Yale, and Rutgers, and taught at Salk H.S. in Levittown, N.Y., Superior State Coll., and Ohio Northern U. Survivors include his wife, Honor, and sister, Gweneth Furmark '58.

1961 James Wilbur Landes, Feb. 25, 1994, in Fort Worth at 61 of a heart attack. He was the director of field education and supervised ministry at the Brite Divinity Sch. of Texas Christian U. Earlier, during the 13 years he was pastor of Lakewood (Ohio) Christian Church, he was a lecturer and adjunct professor of religious studies at Cleveland State U. He also served churches in Shaker Heights and Columbus, Ohio; Des Moines, Iowa; and Spokane, Wash. He held a B.A. in church history from Lexington Theological Sem., studied religion at the Coll. of Wooster, and took classes in Oberlin's Graduate Sch. of Theology. Three children, a brother, a sister, and his fiancée, Sally Crawford, survive.

1967 Janice Ruth Bauer, Apr. 20, 1994, in Centralia, Ill., at 48. For 20 years she had lived in New York, where she did volunteer work for the New York Public Library, Meals on Wheels, and St. Vincent's Hosp., where she worked with AIDS babies. She was a member of Habitat for Humanity and American Wildlife Foundation. Her mother and two brothers survive.

1971 Joel Marvin Lee, Jan. 25, 1994, in Irvine, Calif., at 44 of complications from hepatitis. He was product-development coordinator at Auto-Graphics, where he had earlier held the position of director of marketing. Before joining the company in 1988, he had been head of technical services at Lake Forest Coll. Library and then headquarters librarian at the American Library Assoc. (ALA), whose electronic-mail network he founded and where he compiled and edited the first

ALA Publications Checklist and edited *Who's Who in the Library and Information Services*, 1982. He did volunteer work in the AIDS community. His Oberlin A.B. was in English; he earned an M.A. at the U. Chicago Graduate Library Sch. He is survived by his life partner, Michael Becker.

1976 Tony Edward Stafford, Nov. 11, 1993, at 37. He was a self-employed dancer, choreographer, and teacher whose Oberlin A.B. was in theater arts. Survivors include his mother.

1985 John Charles Russell, Apr. 22, 1994, in New York City at 31 of AIDS. A member of the Circle Repertory's Playwrights Project and chair of the Circle Repertory board, he was a playwright whose works appeared in Off Broadway theaters. He was a member of the New Dramatists. His A.B. was in English, and he held a master's degree from Brown. Survivors include his father.

1986 David Arthur Vamos Ryan, May 1, 1994, in Cambridge, Mass., at 30, having been diagnosed with AIDS four years earlier. He was budget director of the North Charles Mental Health Foundation in Cambridge. An original member of the NAMES Project of New England, and a member of two other AIDS service organizations, he was a class trustee on the Oberlin Coll. Bd. of Trustees from 1986 to 1989. His A.B. was in government and economics, and his M.B.A. in public policy from Boston U. Survivors include his partner, Lorenzo Parra '85; a son; his parents, including Fred Lighthall '52; father; stepmother; brother; stepsister; niece; nephew; two cousins, and two grandparents. A memorial-tree fund has been established in his name at Oberlin Coll.

1991 Joseph William Antonecchia, Jr., Feb. 19, 1994, in Buffalo, N.Y., at 25, believed drowned in an accident on Lake Erie. He was a third-year law student at SUNY-Buffalo, where he helped establish Law Students for Accountability, which pressed for ethical and moral accountability among lawyers. As a law student he taught inmates with the Prison Task Force and was a member of the Buffalo Public Interest Law Program, the National Lawyers Guild, the Homeless Task Force, and the Labor and Law Society. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Oberlin with an A.B. in history. Survivors include his father, mother, and three sisters.

THE CO-OP BOOKSTORE

1) Oberlin College Seal T-Shirt:
Red with gold imprint; 100% cotton; S, M, L, XL \$9.95, XXL \$11.95. Also available in 50% cotton/ 50% polyester sweatshirt; S, M, L, XL \$21.95, XXL \$24.95.

2) Oberlin Conservatory of Music T-Shirt: Available in white with black and maroon imprint or navy with maroon and white imprint; 100% cotton; S, M, L, XL \$11.95, XXL \$13.95. Also available in 50% cotton/50% polyester sweatshirt; S, M, L, XL \$21.95, XXL \$24.95.

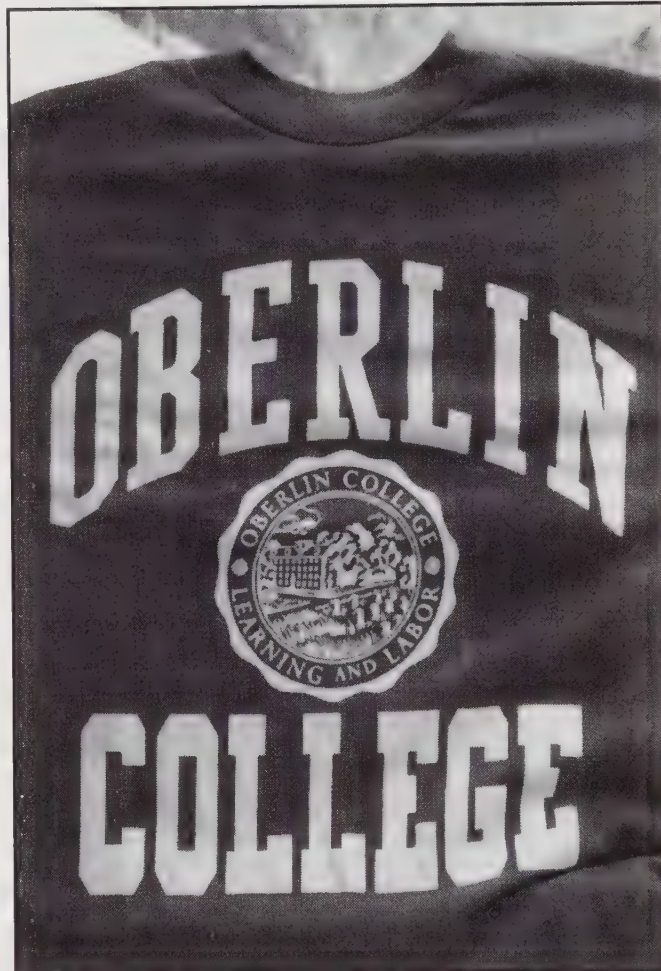
3) Oberlin, Ohio T-Shirt:
Ash with navy and metallic gold imprint; 99% cotton; S, M, L, XL \$13.95, XXL \$15.95.

4) Arched Oberlin T-Shirt:
Available in hunter green or navy with white imprint. Also available in ash, red or white with navy imprint; 100% Cotton; S, M, L, XL \$9.95, XXL \$11.95.
Sweatshirt: 50% Cotton/50% Polyester; S, M, L, XL \$21.95, XXL \$24.95.
(Not available in white.)

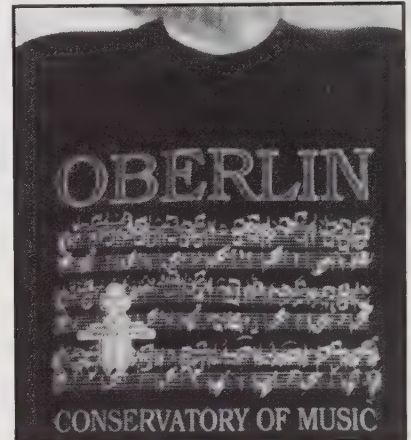
5) Champion Reverse Weave Sweatshirt: Ash with gold and red imprint; 89% cotton/11% polyester and rayon; S, M, L, XL \$39.95, XXL \$42.95. Also available in a hooded sweatshirt; S, M, L, XL \$54.95, XXL \$57.95.

6) Soffee Crossweave Sweatshirt: Ash with navy imprint; 95% cotton/ 5% polyester; S, M, L, XL \$32.95, XXL \$35.95.

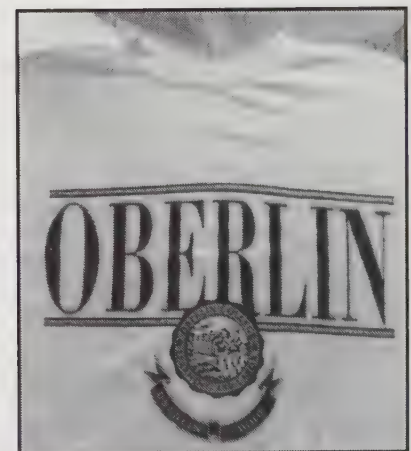
7) Oberlin Baseball Shirt:
Ash with royal imprint; 100% cotton; M, L, XL \$20.95, XXL \$23.95.



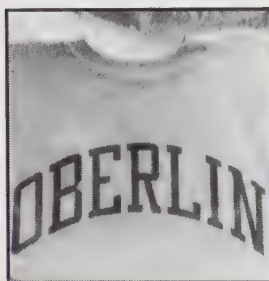
1



2



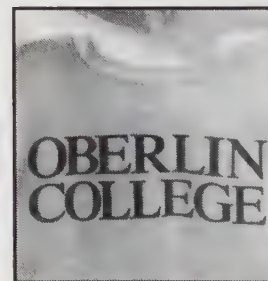
3



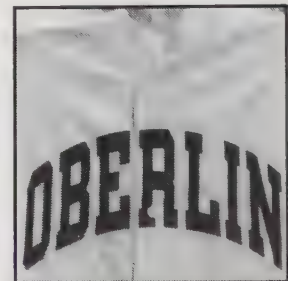
4



5



6



7

STORE HOURS:

Monday-Saturday 9 am-9 pm; Sunday noon-6 pm

PHONE:

1-216-774-3741

FAX:

1-216-775-0063

CALL TOLL FREE: 1-800-860-3741

OR MAIL TO:

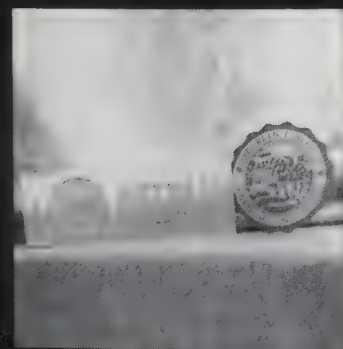
THE CO-OP BOOKSTORE
37 WEST COLLEGE ST.
OBERLIN, OHIO 44074



A



B



C

SHIP TO (Please print):

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

DAY PHONE

MC/VISA #

EXP. DATE

SIGNATURE

Please make all checks payable to the Co-op Bookstore

Description	Color	Size	Qty	Price	Total Price

POSTAGE & HANDLING:

LESS THAN \$25.00	\$3.50
\$25.00 TO \$50.00	\$5.00
\$50.00 TO \$100.00	\$6.50
OVER \$100.00	FREE
EXCHANGE	\$3.50

Merchandise Total

Tax 5.5%
(Ohio residents only)

Shipping
(see chart at left)

TOTAL



All prices subject to change without notice
Please allow 2 to 4 weeks for delivery

A) Oberlin College's award-winning "Change the World" Poster: 22" x 34" \$4.00

B) Peters Hall Glassware: \$4.95 each: 11 oz. White Coffee Mug; 14 oz. Highball; 12 oz. Tumbler. **Oberlin, Oberlin, Oberlin Mug:** Black, Green, Navy or Maroon with Ivory Imprint \$3.95.

C) Car Decals: College Seal w/ Oberlin .69; College Seal .59.

LETTERS

(continued from page 3)

cated that he did so with distinction.

Oberlin's first African-American students were admitted at a time when their people were still being enslaved. Imagine the admissions officers in the 1800s fussing about where these students went to high school when it was against the law in some places for them to know how to read. More important, imagine the sheer genius of those who persevered to earn degrees under such conditions.

African-American students continue to distinguish themselves at Oberlin in spite of below-the-belt attacks by classmates who "would be happier" at a school that does not share the College's proud tradition of egalitarianism. Some enter the College with the assistance of programs designed to remedy the crippling economic legacies of slavery, but none leaves with a degree unless she/he earned it.

Whether the College has begun a "descent into mediocrity" is a matter for debate. What is not debatable is the fact that this descent has nothing whatsoever to do with the admission or performance of African-American students. Perhaps we should examine the reasons why the Oberlin I remember so fondly has become a place where, despite their small numbers and proud history, children of color are accused of "adulterating standards" and held accountable for the school's alleged decline.

CAROL MUNDAY LAWRENCE '64
Los Angeles, California

The crux of two recent graduates' response to Lynn Haessly's financial-aid article is that prospective students' SAT scores are the "one common denominator with which to compare" candidates of differing socioeconomic, ethnic, and racial backgrounds.

Their letter shows that some key elements of Oberlin's history have been forgotten, especially as it applies to groups who do not fit the affluent suburban ideal, such as African-Americans, Appalachians, Chicanos, or Native Americans.

From its earliest years Oberlin has admitted students on the basis of their commitment to academic excellence. It was reasoned, correctly, that students who were highly motivated, resourceful, and focused on learning and achievement would find Oberlin a worthy and achievable challenge. Some of these early alternative applicants (including Caucasian women) did not have ideal credentials at the time of admission. Some were almost completely self-taught or

covertly tutored because education for these groups was considered at best unnecessary and at worst criminal.

Far from dragging the College into a morass of mediocrity, the earliest African Americans and others succeeded at Oberlin and contributed to its "sterling reputation." Then, as now, those responsible for admission to Oberlin College realized that there was no one way to compare candidates of various economic, ethnic, and social backgrounds except through their daily commitment to academic excellence, commitment that goes beyond fair grades, SAT scores, or a suburban address.

JUDITH P. JOUBERT '78
Seattle, Washington

I was deeply distressed and saddened by the insanity represented by the fall 1993 financial-aid article. I almost wrote to express my thoughts, but decided that such nonsense is better prayed over than fought about. I was impressed by the letter entitled "Alumni Consensus, Not" in the following issue. Yet halfway through the piece, I thought it would hardly make an impression since it was probably written by some "older-generation" folk like myself. My delight and confidence were restored upon seeing the writers were recent graduates.

Hooray for Ms. Creighton and Mr. Sonne. Kudos for the old but thinking fogies represented in the letters of Ms. Feitzinger, Mr. Johnson, and Ms. Rossabi. It tells me that while so much of the true essence of Oberlin is buried under the rubble of current campus hysterics, there's a healthy spectrum of an Oberlin in exile somewhere out there. So while I remain deeply troubled about the intellectual and moral condition of Oberlin today, there is still hope that in the future diversity and tolerance at Oberlin needn't be the equivalent of absurdity and chronic mindlessness.

MICHAEL LUBAS '69
Rochester, New York

Being part of the Oberlin community certainly does keep one on one's rhetorical toes. Polly Feitzinger and Mary Jane Rossabi are offended and Carl Johnson is puzzled by what each of them thinks I said in an informal and, I thought, private gathering ["Letters," Winter/Spring 1994 *OAM*]. Much to my surprise, this turns out to be yet another lesson in the hazards of free speech. We've had a rash of those lately.

The remarks in question were part of a conversation with colleagues who met informally to discuss the distressing evidence

that Oberlin might no longer be able to afford a need-blind admissions policy. Neither I nor anybody else knew that a reporter from the *OAM*, or indeed any reporter, was in the room. The *OAM*'s reporter, Lynn Haessly, approached the meeting's facilitator only after the meeting was over. This is to say that Ms. Haessly observed that meeting both unannounced and uninvited. Moreover, Ms. Haessly never asked my permission to use remarks that I had made in a conversation which, according to my notions of professional courtesy anyhow, she had no business listening to in the first place.

To make matters worse, she seems to have missed the sense of what I said. I'm sorry that she neglected to check the accuracy of her "quotation" with me, because I'd then have been able to discover that she'd misunderstood what I said. Because all of this took place several months ago, I no longer remember precisely what words I used to make my point. But I do know that my point was ironic and, as such, precisely supports the very issues that Ms. Feitzinger, Mr. Johnson, and Ms. Rossabi raise so forcefully.

So what did I mean? I was voicing my own worry that our just and heartfelt concern for qualified minority students whose families can't afford the bill for an Oberlin education might be tempting us to fear a bogeyperson who doesn't exist. That nonexistent bogeyperson is the specter of Oberlin's turning into a bastion of privilege. I went on to say that I don't think that's likely to happen. My 20 years' experience here suggests that most students come to Oberlin because they want to come here, not because they've been shut out of colleges regarded as more fashionable among the WASP upper classes.

My ironical comment was thus intended to counter three groundless apprehensions. First, not all minority applicants require assistance in order to attend Oberlin; it strikes me as classist to assume otherwise. Second, not all deserving students who do require financial aid belong to minorities; it strikes me as racist to assume otherwise. Third, many of the best students I have taught here have been from extremely privileged backgrounds. Some have been white; some have been black; some have been North American; some have been South or Central American; some have been Asian; some have been African; some have been European. And so forth and so on.

WILLIAM HOOD
Department of Art

In the winter/spring issue three alumni responded vehemently, with cries of racial ste-

reotyping, reverse discrimination, and bigotry, to their own ungrammatical misreadings of Professor of Art William Hood's comment that "on everyone's mind" was the fear that abandoning need-blind admissions would lead to "a freshman class of rich, white, dumb students"

Adjectives in the English language generally imply a narrowing of the set into a smaller subset. Logically, rich, white, dumb freshmen would not encompass all rich freshmen nor all white freshmen. A statement on the high incidence of high-school dropouts among poor blacks would not make the black Yale Law School graduate reach for her pen to decry racist stereotyping: ("All blacks aren't poor!")

Since I received full financial aid, I confess myself disqualified to decide the rich vs. capable debate. But, as a rich friend said, "wouldn't one assume that, at any given time or place, a poor person would be more capable, even more intelligent, than a rich person? Think of the odds against the poor person."

As an undergraduate I was unprepared to cope with rich kids brimming with the benefits of a challenging secondary-school education and sometimes oozing a sense of entitlement. Prep schools had hidden such people from me until then. Yes, the ones who made me feel inadequate, unworldly, and unknowledgeable were white.

Even though I am white, I collapsed from culture shock and dropped out of Oberlin for a semester. These difficulties happened under need-blind admissions; what will poor freshmen experience in the future? Or will there be any?

MICHELLE S. MOOD '84
Ithaca, New York

Beyond Football



Bruce Bennett believes "it is difficult for Oberlin College to attract students with above-average football ability" and implies that if Oberlin were to do away with football and split that budget among the 19 other teams, then all would be well ["Letters," Winter/Spring 1994 *OAM*].

Unfortunately, the other teams are also doing poorly for the same reason that football is doing poorly: Oberlin no longer attracts sufficient numbers of outstanding student/athletes for most sports, not just football. Meanwhile, schools with whom Oberlin traditionally competes continue to do well in this respect, even though we

believe Oberlin College has more to offer.

The failure to attract outstanding student-athletes appears to coincide with the decision to terminate the physical education academic program (one of the leading such programs in the country) and replace it in 1989 with an administrative department. Although the problem also parallels the admissions problems of the entire college (falling enrollment, declining yield, and drastic reduction in number of students from Ohio), there is no reason it cannot be addressed separately.

I do not suggest we reinstate the Department of Physical Education as it previously existed. Other schools with comparable problems have, however, remained attractive to student-athletes by developing programs, such as sports medicine, that utilize existing facilities in many departments and provide student-athletes with broad-based programs relevant to contemporary needs. Oberlin could do the same, and begin once more to search out outstanding student-athletes.

If we recognize the value of a broad intercollegiate athletic program, which has been an important part of Oberlin's history, then we must attempt to make the necessary improvements. If not, then all sports should be dropped, not just football. Before taking such a step, however, we should consider the following: 1) Intercollegiate sports, despite most teams being understaffed, are the largest non-academic student activity on campus. 2) Intercollegiate sports have the best record of meeting all of our aspirations for diversity on the campus. 3) The facilities provided and maintained for intercollegiate sports are also used by intramural sports and a large number of persons from the community. 4) Student-athlete alumni have succeeded in generating the largest single-purpose fund ever at Oberlin.

We should be very careful about abandoning Oberlin College's tradition of striving for excellence in everything it does.

VINCENT A. ROSENTHAL '49
Oberlin, Ohio

Remembering Wong and Roellinger



It is with great sadness that I read of the passing of Professor Emeritus Edward Wong ["Losses in the Oberlin Family," Winter/Spring 1994 *OAM*]. Eddie was special even among Oberlin faculty for his love of mathematics and his ability to inspire, encourage, and share his excitement with his students. I

look through my notes from his classes and see the growth of a strong sense of the subject's beauty and its connection with other shapes of thought. Eddie's enthusiasm persists in my creative and scientific work and in others' as well. Knowing Eddie Wong was a rare privilege.

ANNETTE DUBOIS '86
San Francisco, California

In his Memorial Minute for the late Francis Xavier Roellinger, Professor of English David P. Young remarks that "Frank was less well known than many members of Oberlin's faculty. Retiring and socially reticent, he shunned leadership roles" [Winter/Spring 1994 *OAM*].

That may be the case, but I want to go on record here as someone (and there were quite a few of us) for whom Frank Roellinger was the exemplary professor.

I was a student of Roellinger's in the "Introduction to Literature" year-long course that was, in my day, required of all students. I came to Oberlin from the Fieldston School in New York, thinking I certainly knew "how to read"; I had, after all, had the senior seminar with Elbert Lenrow at Fieldston. But Roellinger quickly taught us that reading wasn't easy, that it was a skill to be learned slowly and patiently. The novel for that year was Edith Wharton's *The Age of Innocence*; Roellinger taught us how complicated its point of view is, how difficult it is to know how one should take Newland Archer. This year when I saw the film, I remembered the whole discussion.

Roellinger was exacting, demanding, slightly scary in his black suit. He would come into the classroom, open the window, and get right down to business. In my junior year, I took his year-long course in essay writing. There were about eight of us, and every week each of us had to write a seven-to eight-page essay. During the first semester, a personal essay, during the second, a critical one. I still remember that when I wrote my first critical essay Roellinger wrote on it, "I think you have more talent for criticism than for the personal essay." How true! But, in any case, the discipline gained by writing those weekly essays, learning how to frame an argument, analyzing a literary text, and so on, was invaluable. Each week, Roellinger would read (deadpan!) one of our essays aloud—no one knew whose it was—and we would then take it apart, try to improve it, and so on. It was an unforgettable experience.

I think Roellinger helped shape my whole future career as a critic and professor. He is

still my role-model. I want to salute him, to send my deepest condolences to his family, and to say would there were more like him. A great teacher.

MARJORIE MINTZ PERLOFF '53
Stanford, California

Big Band Recording Available

I enjoyed the article "Here's What Happened to that Last Dance Song" in the fall 1993 issue. It helped me realize what a treasure I

had inadvertently obtained. In my third year of medical school a friend had gone to a yard sale and found a copy of the 1950 Social Board recording that Bill Kohler mentioned in the article. My friend bought it for a couple of dollars and gave it to me, so I have a mint-condition recording of these songs. If it weren't for your article, I never would have appreciated them so much. If anyone is interested in a fair-quality cassette-tape copy, just let me know.

CHARLES F. COURTSAL '85
11 Greenview Dr.
Rochester, NY 14620

Specialty Reunions Strengthen Community

I regret that some alumni continue to criticize specialty reunions as fragmentary ["Letters," Fall 1993 *OAM*]. Many alumni in these groups are not only self-defined; they entered Oberlin with an historic social, political, and cultural definition of their particular group or found new identities at Oberlin. It is to Oberlin's credit that it did not try to create a fictive melting pot (typically defined in terms of the dominant culture and its history) in which all people were to pretend to be defined by a single social, political, or cultural experience. In fact, many people joined together as students and/or as alumni, not so much for the purpose of excluding others, but as a response to similarities of interest, to combat the inequities and prejudices both within and outside of Oberlin, and to reaffirm themselves against the fiction of a melting pot.

As an active alumnus and one of the founders of the Black Alumni Network, I find that my identity with, admiration for, and support of Oberlin comes from the College's ability to absorb diversity, rather than deny it. In that sense, Oberlin students and alumni learn to affirm themselves as they appreciate and affirm the diversity within others. What makes this structure very different from that of sororities and fraternities is that alumni and students may affiliate with several groups which may be defined by occupation, extra-curricular activities, academic majors, race, ethnicity, religion, gender, and/or sexual orientation.

Is it not wonderful that people who bring to the Alumni Association such diverse interests, concerns, and traditions can all define themselves as active Oberlin alumni?

LILLIE JOHNSON EDWARDS '75
Montclair, New Jersey

Heartened by Reactionary Fear

I see Professor of Religion Gilbert Meilander signed his name to the statement on homosexuality produced by the Ramsey Colloquium. Being privileged folk, of course, they were able to shroud their hatred in fine-sounding prose (let's call it bad intellectual cross-dressing).

But looked at another way, the very existence of the document marks a triumph for those of us who struggle for fairness on the question of whom one may love (and/or sleep with). You see, the Ramsey statement on queers was more than merely vicious or stupid or hateful. It was *desperate*. The very progress lesbians and gays have made in their fight against bigots has struck fear in their hearts. Their plea for recontaining the homos is an act of sheer desperation.

So alarmed are the reactionaries of Judeo-Christendom that they would even stoop to suggesting that it is children who are at stake. This is an old and tired strategy coming from what appears from the list of signatories to be a gaggle of old and tired men—not a few of whom are quite likely the sort of self-loathing queers one encounters stooping in other ways in bushes and bathrooms, wedding bands and all.

The members of the Ramsey Colloquium admit they are uneasy. I cannot tell you the comfort and delight this gives me. For in their uneasiness I find the space to flourish. While it is easy to dwell on all the injustices against same-sex love still to be defeated, their unease reminds me of the significant victories already in hand. Coming to this realization more than compensated me for the disgust I endured in reading the colloquium's words.

JEFFREY A. WINTERS '82
Evanston, Illinois

Report Needs Work

The *Strategic Recommendations for Oberlin College* document contains little to distinguish Oberlin from other colleges, many of which provide an excellent education at a much lower cost. Its shortcomings point to reasons for decreasing yield in College of Arts and Sciences admissions. I'll address portions of the document that relate to the College of Arts and Sciences.

The key is in the last of the Strategic Issues Steering Committee's seven "core

Pride in People Pride in Place



With an Eye to the Future

Oberlin College
Development Office
208 Bosworth Hall
Oberlin, Ohio 44074
216/775-8550

principles": "the college comprises faculty, students, staff, trustees, and alumni." To the contrary, the faculty, and only the faculty, offers the Oberlin education. I have great respect for the Oberlin faculty members whom I know, but this document suggests that, as a group, they do not believe in anything. The most mediocre two-year college expects as much of its students: "completion of writing and quantitative proficiency requirements by the end of the second year." Nothing else is thought important enough to be expected of every student. All the other recommendations, desirable though they may sound, are optional, or, as the auto companies so carefully state it, "available."

Here are three suggestions: First, require a year of the history of art and music up to the mid-1700s. The Conservatory of Music and Allen Memorial Art Museum's substantial resources can provide intellectual stimulation in this area, critical to understanding the human enterprise and yet unknown to most young people.

Second, require a year course in the history and culture of an Asian country, with courses on several major countries offered in rotation. Americans know little about the countries with which we will continue to

develop closer ties over the coming decades. Here again Oberlin has real strengths, including the Shansi Association. Such a requirement would represent genuine cultural diversity in the Oberlin curriculum.

Third, recognize that Oberlin was most prominent nationally and exerted the greatest influence for good on our country during the period when its Christianity was proclaimed most forcefully, and require a course in Christian religion. A semester's careful study of John Paul II's *Veritatis Splendor*, for instance, would be highly appropriate at the start of any student's education.

I hope the document will undergo substantial revision before it is completed, that the faculty will take hold of its proper leadership role in this process, and that the final version will incorporate a strategy drawing upon Oberlin's strengths to lay out a distinctive educational philosophy.

ROLAND F. HIRSCH '61
Germantown, Maryland

Rejects Reunion-Gift Request



I received a letter from the 15th Cluster

Reunion Gift Committee regarding Oberlin's financial situation and requesting contributions. One line confirmed for me that I will not now or probably at any time in the near future contribute any students or funds to Oberlin: among the "good reasons to contribute" to the College committee members cited that openly gay students now number between 15 and 20 percent of the student body.

I do not believe the gay lifestyle is one created or accepted by God, nor do I think it should be encouraged. Oberlin was started with a deeply religious foundation. The College is declining because it has drifted from that spiritual foundation. The bulk of American people still draw great strength from their Christian roots, and, if Oberlin wants to regain its former strength, it should look there.

I appreciate the education I received at Oberlin. It has served me very well in my career. I am less enthusiastic that during my time there I tried drugs, lost my virginity to a man to whom I did not have a long-term commitment, and was generally encouraged to ignore my Christian values and upbringing. These experiences did not enhance the quality of my life after gradua-

OBERLIN'S RETURNING CLASS

KENDAL AT OBERLIN

"I am reassured with the knowledge that continuity of health care will be provided at anytime I should need it and for as long as needed . . ."

—Lowell Lapham '43, Rochester, NY

"We're very happy to be going back to a simpler and safer corner of the world, where values are still important—and where it smells fresh and green after it rains."

—Mim and Dick Hallock '41, Pacific Palisades, CA

" . . . By moving to a small town where music is more available, library resources equally so, and a museum that rivals what the cities offer, Kendal is just tailor-made for my wife Emiko and me. . . ."

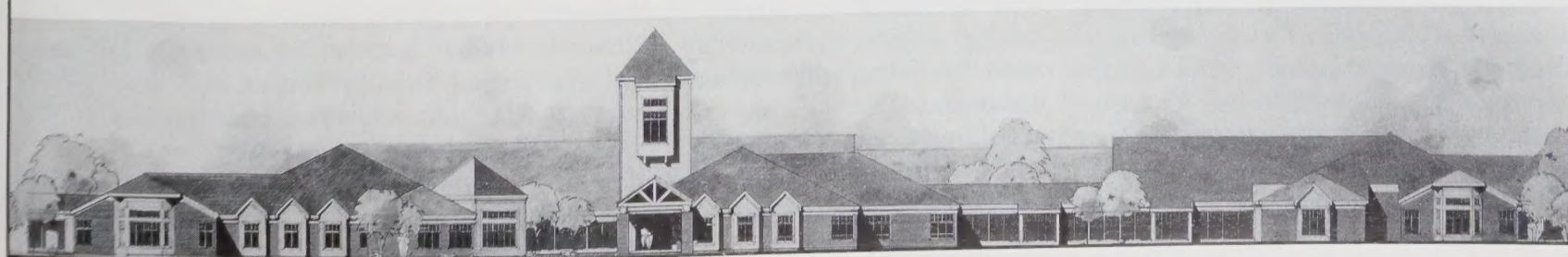
—Ben Custer '31, Bethesda, MD

" . . . With the opening of Kendal in October 1993—Oberlin now has everything."

—Ellen Adams '36, Wellesley, MA

Kendal at Oberlin • 600 Kendal Drive • Oberlin, Ohio 44074 • 1-800-548-9469

A Not-for-Profit Continuing-Care Retirement Community Reflecting Quaker Values



tion. Instead they caused emotional wounds I needed to recover from. Young people of college age are not capable of combating strong peer pressure without some support from the college staff, who are in the position of parents. The College has a responsibility to maintain a moral standard that at least gives the student a running chance to choose honorably and well while he/she is battling the tremendous temptations and pressures of being away from home for the first time and of trying to impress the students around him/her.

Watching the alumni magazine print more and more articles supporting the gay community has caused me to think. Hearing that a growing population of openly gay and lesbian students is a "good reason to contribute" has caused me to stop and say something. I pray that God can guide and bless Oberlin College in the future.

ANNE NORDQUIST INOUE '80
Seoul, Korea

Field House Thanks

Oberlin has fallen in love with physical fitness in a way that was never possible before construction of the Heisman Club Field House. My wife, Janet, and I show up at 6:00 AM Monday through Friday for our morning run and exercises, and there are always several other early birds there. People are in and out using the facility throughout the day. In the evening the track is crowded with users, and all four of the tennis courts are in full swing. Several varsity sports besides tennis and track use the field house for indoor practice after building hours.

All of us who live and work in Oberlin have our generous Heisman Club, other alumni contributors, and friends of Oberlin to thank for this tremendous facility.

DICK MICHAELS
Dept. of Athletics and Physical Education

Catch the Future Wave

Multidisciplinary Van Programs may be good candidates for the next major step in higher education. Exciting and rewarding experiences for participants, they provide colleges with new opportunities for recruiting students and raising financial support.

Van Programs may be mounted in any discipline and feature teams of professionals and preprofessionals—usually college profes-

sors and their students—who travel in vans to elementary, middle, and high schools with the tools of their trade to exhibit themselves in their own true roles—a natural step in the passing of skills from one generation to the next. Musicians can concertize and run master classes; dramatists can dramatize social issues; scientists can give lecture-demonstrations, showing how they learn "to know" by uniting experiments and observations with knowledge, imagination, and logic.

Van visits unite a diverse faculty and student body in a clearly understood and enthusiastically and widely-subscribed-to enterprise: improvement in undergraduates' understanding of the liberal arts through efforts to improve the public's understanding of the liberal arts. For student participants, van visits feature learning-by-teaching ("You don't really understand something," said Nobel-prize winner Peter Debye, "until you can explain it to the man on the street."); development of communication skills, the skill most wanting in college graduates; and learning to work in teams, transforming the individualistic, self-centered, competitive enterprise of getting a higher education into a higher social enterprise. A new set of attitudes and values supervenes. Opportunities arise for developing comradeship and consciousness of working together under stressful situations for a common cause.

Van Programs support many of the characteristics of first-rate liberal arts colleges: a core set of values, including public service, civility, and dependability; top faculty working as mentors; talented students working hard; and a collegial atmosphere. A campus-wide multidisciplinary program center might become a campus commons and curriculum melting pot. No college, as yet, has a fully-implemented, multidisciplinary Van Program. Development of one at Oberlin College might be historic Oberlin at its best—Oberlin on the wave of the future.

HENRY A. BENT '49
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

You're Invited: A Physics Symposium

The Oberlin College physics department is holding a symposium Saturday, October 1, 1994, to celebrate the renovation of Wright Laboratory. The meeting will feature lectures by Jerry Gollub '66, Ralf Hotchkiss '69, and Patricia Kurtz Donaldson '80, as well as short talks and informal gatherings. We hope a large number of alumni—phys-

ics majors as well as those who ended up in physics-related careers without majoring in physics—will attend. If you would like to attend, please contact Symposium, c/o Department of Physics, 110 N. Professor St., Oberlin, OH 44074. Phone: (216) 775-8330.

DANIEL F. STYER, CHAIR
Department of Physics

A New Newsletter: Theater and Dance

The Theater and Dance Program is planning its own alumni newsletter. Please write or call if you would like to be added to our mailing list. If you have any news you would like to share, please include it.

CAROLYN HUSTED
Theater and Dance Program
30 N. Professor St.
Oberlin, OH 44074-1599
Phone: (216) 775-8152
Fax: (216) 775-8340

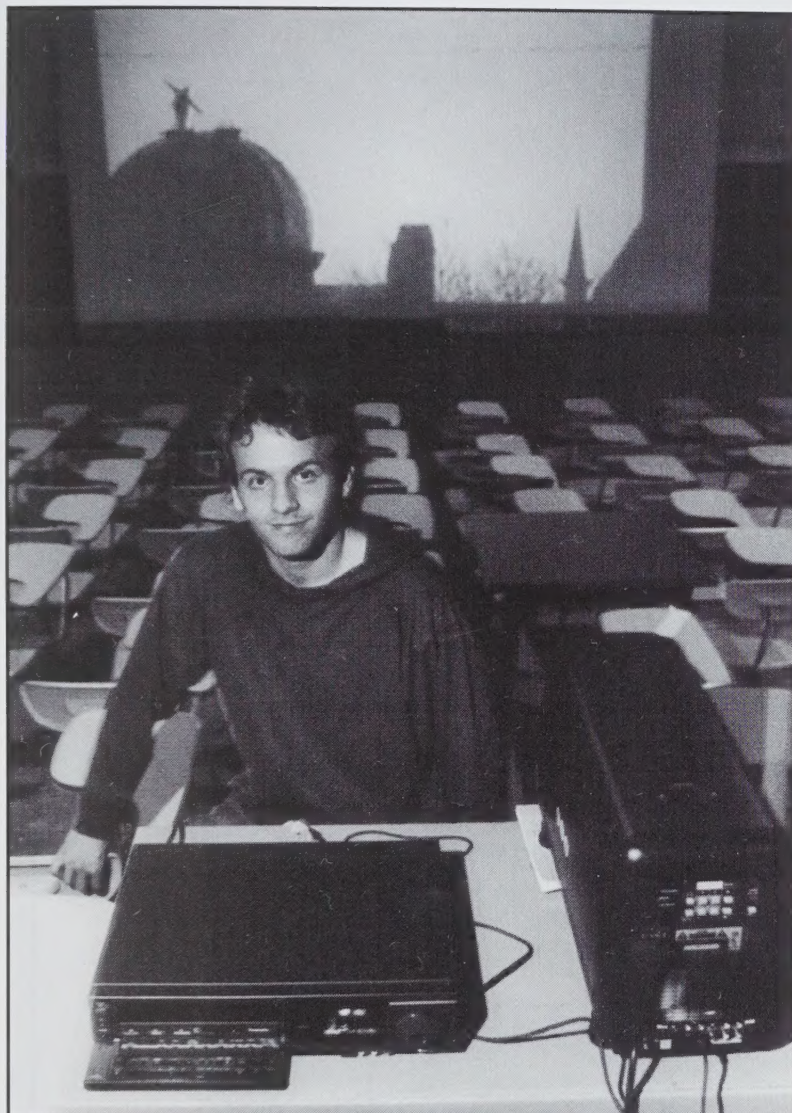
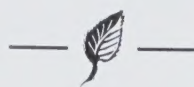
Help for Med-School Applicants

Alumni applying to medical schools can utilize the Office of Career Development and Placement's (OCDP) reference service at a reduced cost, thanks to an experimental program funded by the Office of the President. Medical-school applicants know all too well how devastating letter-of-reference problems can be, especially with the record numbers of highly qualified students applying to medical school, as well as the rolling admission policies most medical schools use. If applicants rely on individual letter writers to mail references directly to the schools, delays can occur at the letters' points of origin, or clerical errors can occur at the schools.

OCDP's service circumvents these potential problems. As soon as the office is notified that recommendations have been requested by a medical school, OCDP will mail all letters of reference in a single packet. The fee for this service is \$5 per medical school. For further information call or write: Barbara Zapotosky, OCDP Reference Service, Wilder Hall 217, 135 W. Lorain St., Oberlin, OH 44074-1081. Phone: (216) 775-8103.

DAVID A. EGLOFF
Department of Biology
Chair, Health Careers Committee

One More Thing



PHOTOGRAPH BY NATE PARSON



PHOTOGRAPH BY NATE PARSON

Andy Sapora (left) began writing *Life is Like a Garbage Truck* during his freshmen year. One of the film's pivotal scenes is playing on the screen behind him. Moviegoers (above) packed the halls outside Kettering 11 on opening night. Both photographs are courtesy of the Elyria *Chronicle Telegram*.

“Have you seen the Oberlin movie?”

Students all over campus greeted one another with that question at the end of fall

semester. Those who had packed Kettering 11 opening night struggled not to give the story away, but within just a few days almost everyone had seen the film, and its accomplishments were eagerly discussed. The consensus? *Life is Like a Garbage Truck* or *Oberlin: The Movie* captured the essence of Oberlin studenthood.

Written and directed by theater major Andy Sapora '95, starring Oberlin students, and boasting a score composed by conservatory students, the movie tells the story of Gil, an aimless and disaffected Oberlin student who isn't getting any satisfaction from his friendships with other Obies, among them a pornography-hating feminist, a philosophical but angst-ridden "13th-semester radical," and Brian, who spends every spare moment repairing a broken down garbage truck in which he intends to leave Oberlin. Gil turns to a seemingly (to everyone

but Gil) comatose local-nursing-home resident for companionship.

Gil and the Old Guy's adventures take them all over Oberlin: into Hale Gym's Crane Pool for a midnight swim, to the tip top of Peters Hall's domed observatory, to the city streets and country roads. At first Gill does all the talking. "We're all here doing the same Oberlin thing, but it still seems like we're going through it all alone," Gil says. But when the Old Guy perks up and answers him, Gil stops to listen, because what he hears just might change his life.

While the movie is full of Oberlin inside jokes, Sapora says he tried to make a film any college student could relate to. "I want students to see the old man who comes along and says, 'Don't let that get to you. Don't let them get you down that way.' I want a story that has some grace and some beauty and some joy, which would make people glimpse something of how cool it is just to be alive."

—CN

Coming Soon: An Alumni Event Near You

June 10	Oberlin College Board of Trustees meeting	Oberlin†
June 10	Alumni Council Executive Board meeting	Harpers Ferry, W.Va.*
June 11	Evening of jazz with the Stanley Cowell Trio (Stanley is Class of 1962) and Jimmy Heath	Washington, D.C.*
June 14	Happy Hour at Escape	Washington, D.C.*
June 17	The Kennedy Center, the National Symphony Orchestra, and surprise guests salute Mstislav Rostropovich	Washington, D.C.*
June 25	Philadelphia alumni annual picnic	Philadelphia*
July 3	Baltimore Orioles vs. California Angels at Camden Yards	Baltimore*
July 10	Washington, D.C. Alumni Club picnic	Home of Amy Fielder '61*
July 16	Southern California 2nd semi-annual alumni party	Home of Hollis Chang '62*
July 22	NCAC Behind the Fence Party Cleveland Indians vs. Chicago White Sox at Jacobs Field	Cleveland*
July 24	<i>Miss Saigon</i> at the Kennedy Center Opera House	Washington, D.C.*
July 30	New York Yankees vs. Cleveland Indians at Yankee Stadium	New York*
July 31	Summer Reception recognizing 1994 alumni honoree Sally Gamble Epstein '48	Washington, D.C.
August 4	Cleveland Indians vs. Detroit Tigers at Jacobs Field	Cleveland*
September 23-25	Alumni Council Weekend	Oberlin*
September 30– October 2	Parents' Weekend	Oberlin°
October 1	Department of Physics symposium	Oberlin§
October 8	Inauguration of Nancy Schrom Dye, Oberlin's 13th president	Oberlin°
November 10	Washington Opera's performance of Gounod's <i>Faust</i>	Washington, D.C.*
November 11-12	Class of 1965's Colloquium on Activism	Oberlin*
November 19	Washington Opera's performance of Mozart's <i>Marriage of Figaro</i>	Washington, D.C.*

*This schedule does not include all upcoming events, and dates may be subject to change.
For further information contact:*

* Alumni Association: Bosworth Hall 105, 50 W. Lorain St., Oberlin, OH 44074-1089. Phone: (216) 775-8692.

† Office of the Secretary: Cox Administration Building 200, 70 N. Professor St., Oberlin, OH 44074-1090.
Phone (216) 775-8401.

° Office of Development and Alumni Affairs: Bosworth Hall 201, 50 W. Lorain St., Oberlin, OH 44074-1089.
Phone (216) 775-8569.

§ Symposium, c/o Department of Physics, Wright Laboratory of Physics, 110 N. Professor St., Oberlin, OH 44074-1088.
Phone (216) 775-8330.

To have your alumni-group event listed here, call or write the Alumni Association.

Archives
Mudd Learning Center
3 COPIES